

# ARMY

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REGULAR



# NAVY

AND VOLUNTEER  
FORCES.

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**SIMS-DUDLEY POWDER-PNEUMATIC GUN.**

The fight for superiority between great guns and heavy armor would seem to have almost reached its

used at each shot was taken into account. But the main point was that the principle had been established, and what Lieut. Zalinski eventually did with the gun in its

to be evolved, and it took practical shape in the Dudley Powder Pneumatic Gun, of the Sims-Dudley Defense Company, of New York, which was tested last April in the presence of Gen. Nelson A. Miles, and a distinguished gathering of Army and Navy men at Mattincock Point, on Long Island Sound. The gun experimented with was of 4-inch caliber, and with its mount weighed 2,000 pounds, the mount alone weighing 750 pounds. The possibilities of the gun were amply demonstrated.

A series of trials is already arranged for, with a view of constructing a gun on the same principle as that tested at Mattincock Point, but of much larger caliber. In the meantime a still smaller gun has made for itself a remarkable record. This is the 2½-inch bore Sims-Dudley Powder Pneumatic Gun, shown in Fig. 1. The gun weighs 270 pounds, with carriage 550 pounds. The length of the gun proper is ten feet, the length from muzzle to end of carriage being twelve feet. The air pressure is produced by the explosion of gunpowder, no air-compressing plant being required, so that the gun is self-contained, and is a complete weapon. It consists of three tubes, arranged side by side on the same horizontal plane. The middle and longest tube is the main barrel and contains the projectile. The other tubes are connected to each other and to the main barrel. (See Fig. 2.) The breech of the gun and the manner of loading are shown in Fig. 3.

Two men are required to man the gun, and two more to handle the ammunition. When the gun is to be brought into action, one of the gunners takes from the ammunition box a projectile ready for service, and the metallic cartridge containing the propelling power. The projectile, G, in Fig. 2, is placed in the center tube, E, and the breech is closed. The cartridge, F, containing six ounces of smokeless, or a proportionately larger charge of ordinary powder, is inserted in the right hand tube, A, the breech of which is then closed. Prior to elevation the distance of the target is estimated, and by a comparison with the table of elevation the proper number of degrees is found. The gun is then elevated to the distance required, the ordinary gunner's quadrant being used.

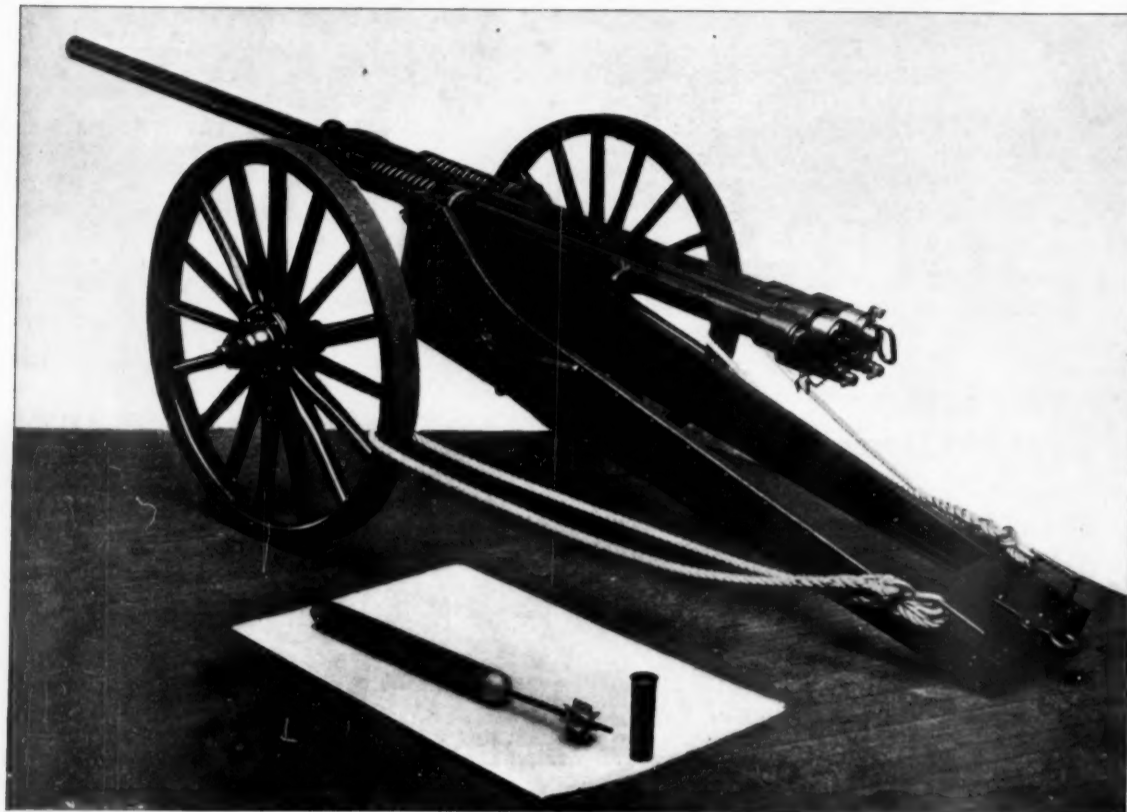


FIG. 1.—SIMS-DUDLEY PNEUMATIC GUN AND PROJECTILE.

limit, and recent events would indicate that a leading part in the wars of the future will be played by high explosives. Torpedoes have been developed to a high state of efficiency for naval attacks, and now military men are turning their attention to the solution of the problem of a safe and effective method of firing high explosives in shells from powder guns. But even with the slowest burning powder, the initial shock to the projectile is enormous. The shell containing the explosive must possess sufficient strength to withstand the shock without breaking up in the gun, and when this strength is attained, the weight of the shell itself is nearly up to the maximum which the gun could deliver. Furthermore, even if the projectile reaches the target, a large percentage of its force is spent in disrupting the shell, leaving but a small amount is to be vented on the enemy. A further difficulty is the danger of premature discharge of the explosive by the shock of firing. After a long course of experiments, both in this country and Europe, the conclusion was reached that what was wanted was the ability to start the shell containing not only the high explosive, but also the far more sensitive primer necessary to its explosion, without shock, jar, or rise in temperature; and to immediately follow up the shot, after its inertia of rest had been overcome, by the continued application of a comparatively low pressure through a sufficient distance to impart the momentum necessary to project it to the desired range. Given such a system, the development of a gun would be assured capable of delivering aerial torpedoes containing large charges of high explosives at greater distances than those attained by automobile torpedoes, with greater speed and an accuracy unhampered by the medium through which they were projected.

The first to attain in a practical form the correct solution of the problem was Mr. D. M. Mefford, of Ohio, who applied compressed air as the propelling force in his pneumatic dynamite gun. His first gun was 2-inch bore, with 28 feet length of barrel. Compressed air at 500 pounds pressure was delivered from a reservoir into the barrel, the supply being determined by the skill of the gunner.

which purpose it was accepted by the Government, was, with its ponderous machinery, engine, boilers, air-compressors, etc., unfitted for many conditions of warfare

The gun is now ready for firing. The pulling of the lanyard explodes the six ounces of smokeless powder. This compresses the air in the tube, A, the forward

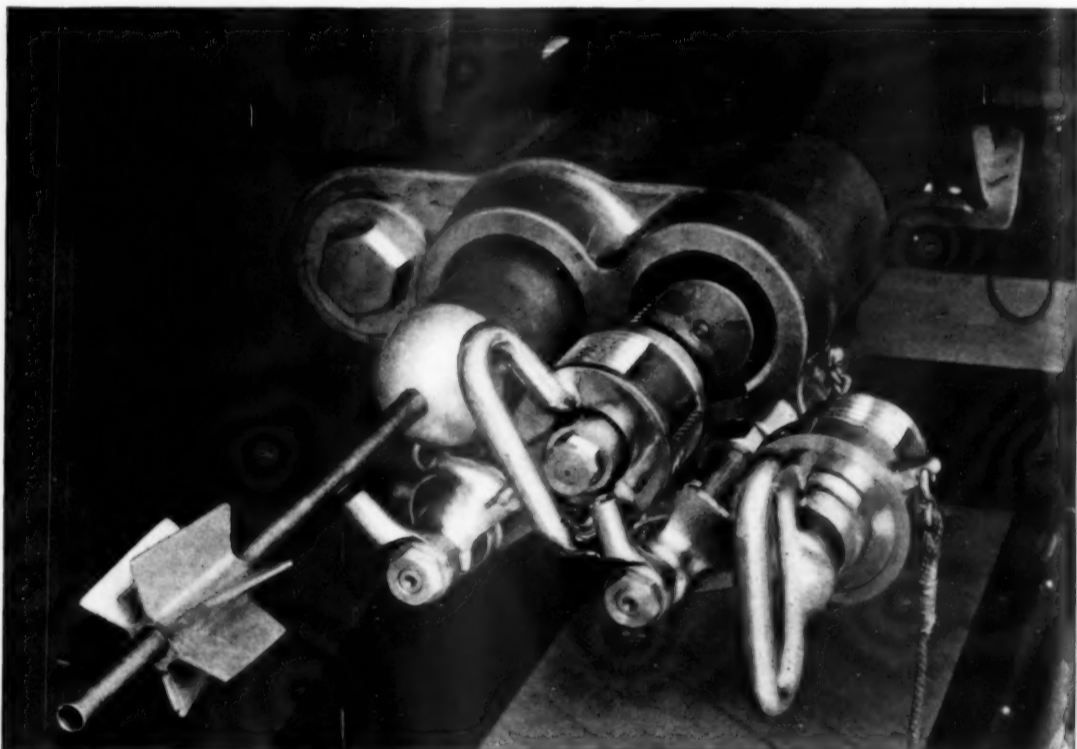


FIG. 3.—SIMS-DUDLEY PNEUMATIC GUN. BREECH MECHANISM.

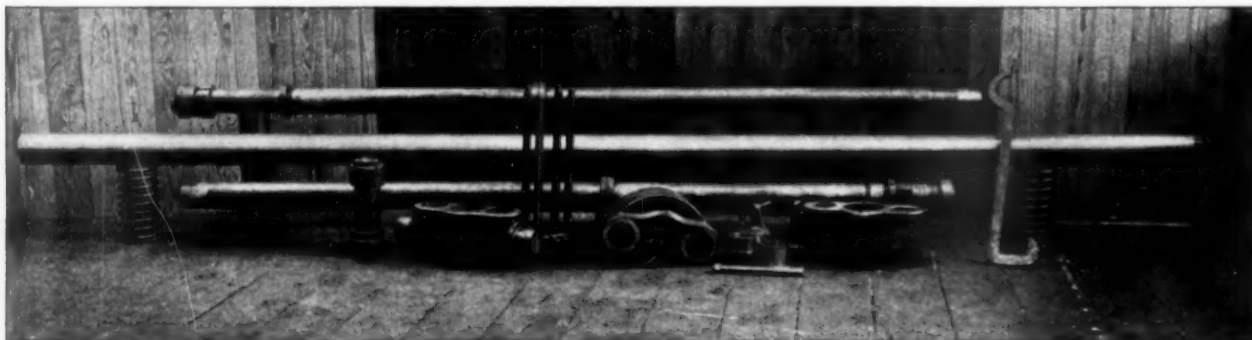


FIG. 5.—PARTS OF SIMS-DUDLEY PNEUMATIC GUN BEFORE ASSEMBLING.

A range of about 2,100 yards was obtained with an accuracy which was surprising when the crude method of determining and regulating the amount of air

in which the ability to throw possibly lighter charges of explosives by means of a portable gun would be of inestimable value. Such a gun was certain, sooner or later,

is attached the fuse and from its rear extends a tail piece which carries vanes set at an angle that will insure rotation. The entire shell, tail piece and all, is 34 inches

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long, and when fully charged weighs 11 pounds. In the main body of the projectile is placed the 4-pound charge of explosive gelatine. In the forward end of the charge, and inclosed in a metal case, is embedded a 6-ounce detonating charge of dry guncotton. In the center of one end of the guncotton is a cylindrical case, containing 30 grains of fulminating mercury. The ignition is effected by a mechanical fuse, the form used being the well-established Merriam. When the shell strikes water or any other object, a steel ball within it is driven forward, owing to the sudden retardation of the motion of the body of the shell, and the ball, in striking one or more percussion caps, causes a detonation. This ignites a tube of slow-burning powder, which communicates with the fulminating mercury, and so explodes successively the

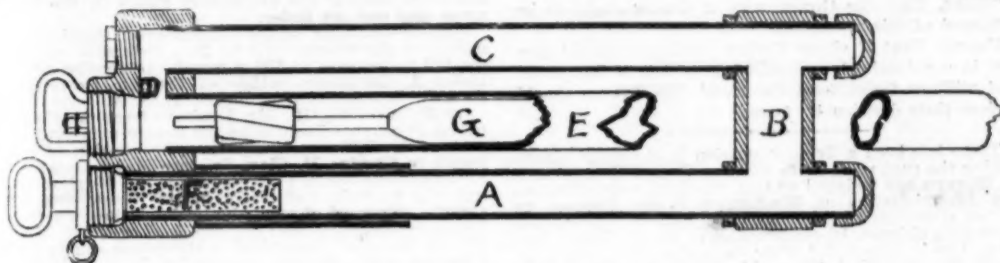


FIG. 2.—CROSS-SECTION OF SIMS-DUDLEY GUN.

guncotton and the main explosive in the shell. The time of explosion is determined by the apportioning of the slow-burning powder.

For field work instant detonation is required. This is secured on the direct impact principle, by the crushing in of the head of the fuse and the driving back of the firing pins, which ignite quick-burning powder, the fulminate, the guncotton, and the main explosive in instantaneous succession. It is practically impossible for the projectile to explode inside the gun. This element of safety is secured by an ingenious attachment on the fuse in the shape of a little windmill or vane, which is screwed on to the fuse head. Attached to this vane and running into the fuse is a screw which presses closely on the metal ball within and renders it immovable. The blades of the vane are pitched at such an angle that when the fuse travels through the air they begin to rotate, thus unscrewing the threaded rod which presses on the ball. The vane, after the fuse has traveled about 200 feet, drops off, and the firing ball is left free to work the instant the shell is arrested in its flight.

One of the pre-eminent advantages of this gun is its extreme simplicity of construction, which enables it to be manufactured at a comparatively low cost. In Fig. 3, the parts of the gun are seen before assembly. When mounted it can be drawn by one horse or three or four men. It can be disconnected and placed on the back of a mule, and the carriage can be loaded on another mule. In other words, the gun and all its accessories can be carried by two mules. In the absence of mules five men could carry the gun, and five the carriage up any ordinary mountain side by cutting a branch about twenty-five feet long and using it as a carrying bar. The gun can be assembled and ready for action in two minutes from the time it is unloaded.

Another peculiar advantage of the gun is the almost entire absence of smoke and noise when it is fired. It can readily be placed in a position where it is most difficult for the enemy to locate it, even when it is in operation, at any distance over half a mile, and even if the gun be discovered, it can quickly be drawn by hand labor to another position, in many cases even without observation. The recoil of the gun is barely two inches. In case of danger of capture by the enemy, the gun can be made absolutely inoperative by unscrewing the cap from the end of one of the tubes.

It cannot be doubted that such a light, portable and ef-

fect simply on the destructive impact of its missile, is here no longer essential.

No less an authority than Capt. Zalinski, in a recent article, says of the phenomenal work of the Sims-Dudley gun in Cuba: "The moral effect of such a wholesale destruction of life is bound to make itself felt by the entire Army. The bravest man is apt to be a coward when he has to face an enemy with which he knows he has not even a fighting chance. This is especially true when soldiers belong to an impressionable and impulsive race. It is to the use of the dynamite gun in Cuba that I ascribe the wonderful success of the insurgents in being able to cope with the vastly superior number of their enemies. If Cuba is ever to be free, it will be the shout of 'al machete,' and the dynamite gun that will have accomplished it."

Some further details of the British cruisers *Amphitrite*, *Argonaut*, and *Ariadne* have been issued in connection with the orders for the building of these vessels recently given to private shipbuilding firms. They will have: Length 435 feet, beam 69 feet, draught 26 feet 3 inches, and displacement about 11,000 tons. In many respects the new vessels will be identical with the *Powerful* and *Terrible*, especially as regards the protection of armament, engines, and boilers, and other vital parts. They will be wood-sheathed and coppered, and are intended to have a sea speed of nineteen knots and a speed on the measured mile of 21 knots. When at their normal displacement they will carry 2,000 tons of coal, but bunker capacity for more will be provided. A new feature will be high freeboard forward and a long forecastle somewhat like that of the *Royal Arthur*. The armament is the same as is the *Niobe* class. No date is yet fixed for their completion.

In a speech at the twenty-fifth anniversary dinner of the Stevens Institute of Technology, on the evening of Feb. 18, Engineer-in-Chief Melville, said: "Official recognition has not yet been given to the work of the engineer, and particularly in naval matters. The attempt to deprive him of the just share of the rewards and emoluments of the naval service has impaired the efficiency of the organization and has caused bitter internal strife, which is to-day our great naval weakness, and whose continuance invites disaster in time of battle. Our naval commanders of the past century bequeathed to this nation predominance on the ocean, a predominance which was lost in the transition from the sail to the steam age. This inheritance will yet be reclaimed, but it will be secured as much by the work of the engineer as by that of the sailor. And if the National Government will permit the scientific colleges to send forth the elect of their graduates to compete for commissions in the naval service, then it may be that the genius of the engineer graduates of such institutions will bring about the restoration of that command of the sea which our people have too long been dispossessed of."

The treasurer's report of the Army and Navy Club, Washington, D. C., shows a flourishing condition of affairs. The receipts during 1896 were \$30,214.78, and the disbursements \$25,108.34; balance, \$5,106.44. Adding to this the amount of \$683.45 for December, 1896, not paid, will show receipts over expenditures of \$5,789.89. It is certainly very gratifying that, despite the hardness of the times during the past year, the club has been able, not only to promptly meet its interest charges and its running expenses, with a balance over, but also to retire \$6,250 of its bonded debt. The expenses of maintenance have steadily declined from \$20,734.54 in 1892 to \$12,640.31 in 1896, the figures for each year being as follows: 1892, \$20,734.54; 1893, \$17,883.71; 1894, \$17,445.12; 1895, \$13,026.44; 1896, \$12,640.31. The chief credit for this excellent financial showing is given to the treasurer. The papers read monthly by members of the club continue to attract much interest; they pertain mainly to the history and science of war from a great variety of experiences and studies, as the following list of contributions for the season of 1896-7 indicate: Nov. 16, 1896, "The Greely Relief Expedition of 1884," by Capt. Samuel C. Lemly, U. S. N.; Dec. 21, 1896, "The Battle of Franklin," by Brevet Maj. Gen. David S. Stanley, U. S. A.; Jan. 11, 1897, "The Sailor in the Revolution," by Comdr. Caspar F. Goodrich, U. S. N.; Feb. 15, 1897, "Scouting on the Plains," by Brig. Gen. Thaddeus H. Stanton, U. S. A.; March 15, "A Central American Episode," by Comdr. Charles O'Neill, U. S. N.

The dailies of Friday contain the story of another fight in Cuba, on the 19th of February, both sides claiming the victory, as usual. The New York "Sun" describes it as "the most important success for the Cuban arms since the revolution began." This extract is of interest in connection with the description of the dynamite gun used by the Cubans, which is described in this number of the "Journal": "All this was in the main plain, on the estate of Juan Criollo, and the odds appeared then to be against Gomez, who had begun the battle with 3,000 men against 1,500, but was now facing 3,500 men, of whom Segura's column was composed of fresh soldiers just entering the field. But unexpectedly for the Spaniards, the Cuban artillery, which Gomez had not yet called into action, began to fire from the higher of the two prominent hills on the estate. The dynamite gun, which in the earlier battle of Juan Criollo, was not very effective, now did splendid work. It was handled by an American officer. Three shells, exploding in the ranks of Segura, were enough to throw the Spaniards into confusion, blowing up, as they did, a whole

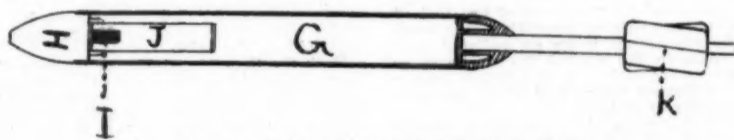


FIG. 4.—THE SIMS-DUDLEY PROJECTILE WITH FUSE.

fective pneumatic gun as this has already been found to be is likely to be called upon in the emergency of war, though how it can be made most effective is a subject of conjecture, pending its subjection to Government tests. For the sudden fitting up of a mosquito fleet it is an ideal weapon. It can quickly be put on to any craft, from a man-of-war down to an ordinary Whitehall row boat. There are at least 300 tugs in New York Harbor with deck room enough to be available for its use. In case of a declaration of war 150 machine shops in the vicinity of the city could be started up to make the guns, and within sixty days the 300 tugs could be equipped. It is no light advantage, for emergency conditions, that the gun can be manufactured in any fairly equipped machine shop, as the ordinary style of tubes used for hydraulic purposes, such as can be purchased in the open market, can be used in its manufacture.

The larger forms of this gun will doubtless find employment in siege work, and for countermine the approach to a harbor. In countermine, a gun on the deck of a ship could throw 100-pound charges of explosive gelatine at the rate of three shots a minute, thus rendering possible the explosion of the submarine mines a mile and a half in front along a channel of 150 to 200 feet in width. The vessel could then pass up to the

boxes. These can lie in water all night, but their contents will be dry and efficient when the box is opened in the morning. It is claimed that with the projectile and fuse as at present packed, absolute certainty that every projectile fired will explode on impact, is assured.

It was early objected that the uncertainty of the air pressure in the gun constituted a radical defect, which would greatly militate against the accuracy and range of the gun. This objection has in actual warfare proved invalid. It was found that one trial shot was enough to give the range, and the air pressure under the varying atmospheric conditions was so nearly uniform that for all practical purposes the fire was always accurate. This is the more surprising since the guns have been handled by men who have had no previous training in military service or the operation of artillery.

A point that enters here is the important fact that the zone of destruction caused by the explosion of the projectile is probably from ninety to one hundred feet, and it is found that where the fire is directed at masses of troops, the shock, even for some distance outside a fifty-foot radius is so frightful that the men who are not killed outright are either dangerously shaken, or so demoralized as to be out of the fight. So that the extreme accuracy which would be imperative in a gun depending for its

guerrilla of fifty men of the Spanish forces hailing from Las Villas."

It is expected that the Executive Committee of the Inaugural Committee will adopt a resolution at its meeting Saturday night, requesting the President, as Commander-in-Chief, to order the United States Militia and Naval cadets to Washington for participation in the ceremonies. It is more certain that Encampment No. 69, Union Veteran Legion, of Washington, will adopt such a resolution. Encampment No. 69 is the organization that succeeded in five days in having the name of Apomattox restored to the Virginia village, near which the Civil War was ended, after the postal authorities had changed it to Surrender.

It appears that the Illinois Steel Company is proposing to furnish armor at \$240 a ton, provided it can have a contract for twenty years, and will, in that case, put up a plant costing \$3,500,000. A bill has been introduced in Congress to give authority to make this contract. It should be accompanied by a proviso that the \$3,500,000 plant shall be forfeited to the Government in case the contract is not fulfilled. It may be possible to furnish armor at \$240 a ton, but the question is whether such armor as we need, and are now using, can be had at that price. There should be no loop-hole of escape from the contract for furnishing the best of armor at the price named. No company should be allowed to secure a monopoly of Government work by driving out of the business by underbidding and then put up the price or default on the contract. The Government has had experiences enough of that sort.

Representative Gibson, like Consul Gen. Lee, wants men-of-war in Havana Harbor. His desire is expressed in the following resolution, introduced on Tuesday, with a preamble describing the outrages suffered by American citizens in Cuba:

"Resolved, etc., That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to demand of the Spanish authorities in Cuba the immediate restoration to liberty of every American citizen, native born or naturalized, now imprisoned by them in the Island of Cuba. Section 2. That in support of that demand the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to accompany it by the presence of a sufficient number of United States ships of war to make the demand good; and if said demand is not granted within twenty-four hours that the city of Habana, and, if need be, other ports of Cuba, be bombarded until said demand is fully complied with and all of said American citizens delivered to the commander of our warships."

The Mayor of the city of New York, as chairman of the Grant Monument Municipal Inaugural Committee, has appointed the following Committee on Military Affairs: Gen. Grenville M. Dodge, chairman; A. Noel Blakeman, secretary; Maj. L. Curtis Brackett, Gen. Henry L. Burnett, Gen. Daniel Butterfield, Col. William C. Church, Col. S. V. R. Cruger, Gen. Nicholas W. Day, Col. Louis Fitzgerald, Col. Francis V. Greene, Gen. Martin T. McMahon, Col. Abraham G. Mills, Gen. Daniel E. Sickles, Gen. Wager Swayne, Col. Charles N. Swift. This committee has issued the following notice: "All military, civil, corporate and social organizations of the United States and all countries who desire to take part in the Grant Monument municipal inaugural parade on April 27 are requested to make application at the earliest possible date. Application for participation in the parade, or for any information in connection with it, should be addressed to Maj. Gen. Grenville M. Dodge, grand marshal, room 292, 1 Broadway, New York City, without further invitation or notice."

A mistake made in the Government Printing Office in printing the bill reported by the Senate Military Committee on the 15th, resulted in a great many protests being submitted to the committee by artillery officers, and necessitated a reprint of the bill. In the original print of the measure section provides "that all vacancies created or caused by this act shall be filled by promotion, according to seniority, from next lower grade in Army, etc." By such provision, officers of the entire Army were eligible to promotion in Artillery Corps. When Gen. Hawley's attention was called to the matter he directed a reprint of the bill so as to have the section read "next lower grade in arm, etc." It is the purpose of Senator Hawley to press the bill to consideration and vote before the close of the session. The Army bill has at last been agreed to by the Senate and House and the measure has gone to the White House for the President's approval. The House conferees refused to accept the Senate provision that the Army and Navy Hospital be provided for and retained for use by the active service, but the provision was accepted by the House when a disagreement was reported. The President has approved the bill directing that a naval ship be employed to transport supplies to India from San Francisco, and it is expected that an order will be issued in a few days placing a vessel on the Pacific station, probably the Alert, at the disposition of the Chamber of Commerce, San Francisco, for this purpose. Secretary Herbert has recommended an appropriation of \$54,000 for the improvement of the naval station at Port Royal.

The Senate Naval Committee is holding hearings on torpedo boats, and it is expected that this will result in the incorporation of a provision in the measure authorizing the construction of some of these vessels. The Senate Appropriations Committee has incorporated a provision in the Sundry Civil Act appropriating \$50,000 to be expended at Fort Spokane, and another appropriation for the improvement of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Secretary Herbert has disapproved of the bill for the relief of George Wood, who was dropped from the rolls of the Naval service some twelve years ago. The Senate Naval Committee has favorably reported the Naval nominations made Thursday.

In the House of Lords, Feb. 25, Lord Salisbury announced that a telegram had been sent to the British representative at the capital of each of the combined European Powers, the phraseology of which was as follows:

"Inform the Government to which you are accredited that Her Majesty's Government proposes to make the following declaration of the policy they intend to pursue, which they believe to be in accordance with that of their allies:

"First, That the establishment of administrative autonomy in Crete is necessary to the termination of international occupation of that island.

"Second, That subject to such system of administrative autonomy, Crete ought to remain a portion of the Turkish Empire.

"Third, That the Government of Greece ought to be informed of this resolution.

"Fourth, That if either Turkey or Greece should persist in a refusal when required to withdraw her naval and military forces from the island, the Powers should impose their decision by force."

There has been a lively discussion in the daily papers during the past week as to whether Consul General Lee at Havana has resigned or threatened to resign because the Administration at Washington is not disposed to act so vigorously as it should in defense of naturalized American citizens. In confirmation of its statement that Gen. Lee is dissatisfied with the action of the Government, the New York "Herald" of Friday publishes this dispatch:

"Olney, Washington: Have demanded release of Scott, American citizen, who has been kept in prison and incommunicado without due process law eleven days.

"Trust you appreciate gravity situation and are prepared to sustain me.

"Must have war ship immediately. How many ships have you at Tampa, Key West, and Southern waters, and are you prepared to send them here, should it become necessary?"

"I cannot and will not stand another Ruiz murder."

"LEE, Havana."

Congress has had a lively debate during the week over Cuban matters, and the air has been sulphurous with warlike talk. When will our legislators realize that the items of their budget have more influence on foreign action than any amount of tall talk. They think that the country can afford to enter upon a policy that may cost it hundreds of millions, but it cannot spare a beggarly million to make such a policy effective.

#### FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS—SECOND SESSION.

On Saturday, Feb. 20, in the Senate, the Vice-President presented a letter from the Secretary of War submitting an estimate of appropriation of \$20,000 for armament of fortifications, for the purchase of machine guns for the fiscal year 1898.

Senator Cameron, on Feb. 19, reported favorably, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, concerning the bill to authorize the President to appoint and confer the rank of 1st Lieutenant of Marines upon the leader of the U. S. Marine Band. The report was accompanied by a commendatory letter from Secretary Herbert.

Senator Gallinger, from the Committee on Pensions, on Feb. 20, submitted a favorable report on the bill to increase the pension of William N. Wells, Acting Master of the Navy during the war. He received very serious injuries during an engagement between the Miami and the ram Albatross, in 1864.

The Senate Committee on Claims has favorably reported the amendment to the Deficiency bill appropriating \$12,000 to reimburse the sufferers by the shipwreck of the U. S. S. Cutter Gallatin for their loss.

The Senate Naval Committee has favorably reported the amendment proposed to be made to the Naval Appropriation bill authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to contract for 3,000 copies of a new edition of the book of "Flags of Maritime Nations," of which such number as may be necessary shall be reserved for use by the Navy Department, on board vessels, at naval stations, and for official use by the Departments of State, Treasury, and War, the remainder to be delivered to the superintendent of public documents for disposal by him in accordance with the provision of law relating to the sale of public documents: Provided, That no copies of said book shall be distributed gratuitously.

The House Naval Committee has favorably reported the Senate bill to amend chapter 67, vol. 23, U. S. Stat. at Large, and to further provide for the retirement of enlisted men in the United States Army and Marine Corps and enlisted men and petty officers of the United States Navy, with an amendment providing that such retirement will take place only when an enlisted man has served thirty years in the United States Army or Marine Corps, or as an enlisted man or appointed petty officer in the United States Navy, and shall have attained the age of fifty-five years.

Senator McMillan has introduced an amendment to the Sundry Civil bill providing that a captain in the Revenue Cutter Service who has served as chief of the Division of the Revenue Cutter Service shall be eligible for appointment as post captain and as chief of the Revenue Cutter Service, whose compensation shall be that now provided by law for a captain in said service, and no more. Senator Carter proposes an amendment to the same bill appropriating \$20,000 to purchase the former post traders' building at Fort Assiniboine.

A favorable report has been made in the Senate on the amendment to the Sundry Civil bill appropriating \$318,950 for dredging a channel in Mare Island Strait to enable all classes of naval vessels to reach the naval establishment at Mare Island; also on the amendment providing that hereafter, upon proper application therefor, the Medical Department of the Army is authorized to sell medical and hospital supplies at its contract prices to the Soldier's Home in the District of Columbia, and the amendment providing that officers of the Army traveling on duty connected with works of internal improvement shall be paid mileage from appropriations therefor: Provided, That hereafter the maximum sum to be allowed and paid such officer or officers shall be four cents per mile, the distance to be computed over the shortest usually traveled route, and, in addition thereto, transportation in kind shall be furnished.

Notice has been given in the Senate that the following amendments will be proposed to the Naval Appropriation bill: Increasing the pay of the Assistant Librarian at the Naval Academy from \$1,400 to \$1,800 per year; remitting to the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco, Cal., the horse power penalty imposed under the contract for the armored coast defense vessel Monterey; authorizing the Secretary of the Navy in his discretion, to contract

for such number of submarine torpedo boats of the Holland type, similar to the one now being constructed by the Crescent Shipyard, Elizabethport, N. J., as the sum fixed in the act of June 10, 1896, for the purchase of two such boats will permit; referring to the Secretary of the Navy for audit and report the claims of the William Cramp & Sons Ship and Engine Building Company for extra work, expenses, and losses incurred in the construction of the Indiana, Massachusetts, Columbia, New York and Brooklyn; appropriating \$5,000 for the Port Royal naval station, \$50,000 for a tug boat at Port Royal, \$75,000 for machinery to be placed in the machine shop there; also appropriating \$25,000 and authorizing the use of a naval vessel or vessels for determining the best route for a telegraph cable between Honolulu and Japan.

Senator Hawley has introduced an amendment to the Fortification bill appropriating \$100,000 to enable the Secretary of War to purchase for the United States, pursuant to the recommendation of the Board of Ordnance and Fortification, the proprietary rights in the Lewis range and position finder.

Senator Gallinger, of the Committee of Pensions, submitted to the Senate on Feb. 20 a favorable report on the bill to increase to \$50 a month the pension of Mrs. Helen A. De Russy, widow of the late Brevet Brig. Gen. De Russy, Corps of Engrs. U. S. A.

On Friday, Feb. 19, Mr. Lindsay, from the Committee on Pensions submitted to the Senate a favorable report on the bill proposing to grant a pension of \$50 a month to Cassius M. Clay, Sr., late Major General, U. S. Volunteers. Gen. Clay served in the Mexican War, and was Captain and Major of the Washington Clay Guards, composed of men who tendered their services to the Government in 1861 for the defense of the City of Washington until the arrival of the troops summoned by Lincoln's first call. He was Major General of Volunteers from April 11, 1862, till March 11, 1863, when he resigned from the Army to accept the position of Minister to Russia. He is now 80 years of age. He was one of the anti-slavery leaders of the days "fore the war."

Senator White, of the Committee on Commerce, on Feb. 19 of last week submitted to the Senate a favorable report on the amendment to provide an appropriation of \$318,950 for dredging a channel in Mare Island Straits, California. At present some of the larger vessels of the Navy cannot be taken to the Mare Island Dock, owing to the shallowness of the channel.

In the House on Feb. 19, Mr. Robinson, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, submitted a favorable report on the bill to make Commo. William P. McCann, U. S. N., now a Commodore on the retired list, a Rear Admiral, retired. Commo. McCann made a brilliant war record, received the thanks of the Navy Department for his conduct in the New Orleans riots in 1866, and was advanced sixteen numbers in the list of commanders for war services. His conduct in the Chilean affair was praised by Secretary Tracy.

Mr. Minor, of Wisconsin, on Feb. 19, submitted to the House a favorable report from the Committee on Claims of the bill for the relief of the widow of the late Maj. Newson, Consul of the United States at Malaga, Spain, who died of smallpox contracted in his labors among the poor of Malaga during an epidemic of the disease.

The House Military Committee, at its meeting, Feb. 19, decided to lay on the table the bills to make Col. Henry L. Abbot rank as a Brigadier General on the retired list, and make Capt. Tisdale, retired, a Major on the retired list. The Naval Committee has decided to incorporate a lump appropriation in the Naval Appropriation bill for armor, hull and machinery, thus suggesting that the Secretary of the Navy make one contract for the entire ship, with the exception of the armament. A favorable report has been made on Mr. Frye's amendment making an appropriation for a revenue cutter for New York, and to appoint five Army engineer officers to investigate and report upon movable dams.

The Senate has passed bills granting pensions to Eliza Craig Heckman, widow of Brig. Gen. Charles A. Heckman, and to Mrs. Julia Jones Duncan, widow of Bvt. Maj. Gen. Samuel A. Duncan.

The Senate on Feb. 16 passed a bill (S. 1427) to provide for promoting Capt. William N. Tisdall, U. S. A., now on the retired list, to the rank of Major.

The Senate on Feb. 17 passed a joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to transport contributions for the relief of the suffering poor of India.

Senator Cameron has given notice of an amendment to the naval appropriation bill appropriating \$97,911, the amount due Cramp & Sons for extra work and expenses in constructing the battleship Indiana.

It is believed on good authority that the Sundry Civil Bill, containing appropriations for the militia, which has passed the House, and is now under consideration in the Senate Committee on Appropriations, will be vetoed by the President on account of the enormous appropriations for unnecessary purposes.

Mr. Coffin presented in the House on Feb. 17 a conference report on the bill to grant a pension of \$50 per month to the widow of Capt. J. Scott-Payne, 5th Cav., U. S. A., but the House refused to agree to the conference report and insisted on its amendment, by which the pension shall be \$30 per month. The matter was laid on the table.

Both the Senate and House Military Committees have been giving close attention to the subject of bringing the cadets of the Military Academy to Washington. A resolution to this effect was considered by the House Committee at its meeting on Feb. 16 and it was finally decided, after a motion to indefinitely postpone consideration was voted down, to refer the matter to the Secretaries of War and Navy for their opinion. Secretary Lamont and Assistant Secretary McAdoo have not been altogether favorable to the proposition. Gen. Miles, however, is anxious that the boys should come and he does not see any reason why they should not witness and participate in the inaugural ceremonies. The Senate Committee considered the subject at its meeting on Feb. 18, but failed to reach a definite conclusion. The committee postponed action until it could hear from the War Department, but Gen. Hawley is known to favor the plan and if he can bring it about the cadets will come to Washington.

The Senate, on Saturday, Feb. 20, agreed to the following resolution: "Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to organize a board of not less than three competent persons, whose duty it shall be to inquire into and determine how much the hull, machinery, and appurtenances of the United States revenue cutter Walter O. Gresham, contracted for by the Department in the year 1895, cost the contractors over and above the contract price, if anything, and report the same to the Senate."

The Senate Naval Committee has favorably reported the amendment intended to be proposed to the Naval Appropriation bill by Senator Pettigrew, authorizing and directing the establishment of branch hydrographic offices at Duluth, Minn.; Sault Sainte Marie, Mich., and Buffalo, N. Y. The committee has also favorably reported the amendment directing the Secretary of War to submit estimates of the cost of removing the ledge in Portsmouth, N. H., Harbor, so far as the same is an obstruction to large vessels going to the Navy Yard.

The House on Tuesday, Feb. 23, considered the bill authorizing the President to appoint Lieut. Robert Platt, U. S. N., to the rank of Commander, but no vote was reached.

The House Military Committee has made a favorable report on the bill to grant a right of way through the Fort Spokane Military Reservation.

On Friday, Feb. 19, the House voted for a further conference upon the bill to grant an increase of pension to the widow of the late Brig. Gen. Joseph G. Carr. The House has favored an increase to \$50 per month, while the Senate committee has advocated \$75 per month. The House conference were instructed to insist upon the House amendment for the payment of \$50 per month.

The House Committee on Pensions has favorably reported the bill granting an increase of pension to the widow of Lieut. Comdr. W. W. Barrett, U. S. N., retired, and the bill granting a pension to the widow of Prof. James Mercur, late U. S. A.

The act to permit a part of the Fort Lyon military reservation to be occupied for a soldiers' home by the State of Colorado has become a law, without the signature of the President, not having been returned within the time prescribed.

Secretary Lamont has transmitted to Congress the report of the inspection made by Insp. Gen. Breckinridge of the several branches of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers. He was assisted in the work of inspecting the Southern branch by Col. Dallas Bache, Asst. Surg. Gen., U. S. A., and states that the assistance of a medical expert is highly desirable. Gen. Breckinridge suggests that the Army and Navy Hospital at Hot Springs, Ark., be closed to the active force and devoted to the care of disabled veterans. He suggests three methods for relieving the pressure on the Home: First, to increase the present plant; second, to build new branches, and third, to provide for the members at their present homes.

The Urgency Deficiency bill contains these items of interest to the services: Pay of enlisted men (Army) for additional length of service, \$451,000; credit in accounts Maj. T. W. Symons, Engineer Corps, \$150; Naval Establishment, pay of Navy, \$574; pay miscellaneous, \$114,023; pay Marine Corps, \$282; transportation and recruiting, \$1,366; gunnery exercise, \$253; Naval Training Station, \$16; Bureau of Equipment, \$311; Medical Department, \$3,052; steam engineering, \$21,128; to pay amounts found due by Treasury, \$870; to supply deficiency in appropriations for Medical Department, \$70,000.

The Senate Military Committee has favorably reported an amendment to the Deficiency bill authorizing the Court of Claims to take jurisdiction of a suit to be brought by Capt. Andrew H. Russell, U. S. A., and Maj. William R. Livermore, U. S. A., on account of the alleged infringement of their patent for a magazine fire-arm, granted to said Andrew H. Russell, and to render judgment for damages incurred or compensation due, for such infringement; and the court is further authorized to receive and consider the testimony already taken in the suit brought in the U. S. Circuit Court, D. of Mass., by said parties against Col. Alfred Mordecai and dismissed for want of jurisdiction, and such new evidence as might be taken on either side.

H. R. 10,300. Mr. Beach.—That the Secretary of War be, and he hereby is, authorized, within his discretion, to establish a military post at or near the city of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio: Provided, That a sufficient quantity of land, which in the opinion of the Secretary of War will be suitable for the purpose, shall be donated free of cost to the United States; said post to be established only after a thorough official examination of all the sites that may be offered to the United States for the purpose above mentioned, such examination to be made by a board of three Army officers to be selected by the Secretary of War outside of the military district in which such post is to be established, and said board shall report its findings in all matters to the Secretary of War for his action.

#### CHANGES IN NAVAL COMMANDS.

Secretary Herbert has sent telegraphic assurances to Rear Adm. L. A. Beardslee, commanding the Pacific station, that he will not be relieved of his command during the present Administration. There has been talk for some time past that such action would be taken. It grew out of the fact that Rear Adm. Beardslee's tour of sea duty expired last August. We understand that Secretary Herbert had promised the command of the Pacific squadron to Commo. George Dewey when Rear Adm. Beardslee was relieved. This promise coming to the ears of Rear Adm. Beardslee's friends, they brought such pressure upon the Department that the Secretary decided to permit the Admiral to remain in his present command during its Administration. As this cancels the promise to Commo. Dewey, there is reason to believe that a strong effort will be made by several flag officers to secure the Pacific station. Commo. John A. Howell was a candidate some months ago, but was transferred to the command of League Island Navy Yard. It is expected, however, that he will again become a candidate. Capt. Henry Howison, now in command of the battleship Oregon, is anxious to be assigned to the command of a squadron upon his promotion, which will occur when Rear Adm. John Walker retires next month.

Besides the Pacific Station, the successor to Secretary Herbert will be called upon to designate a flag officer to succeed Rear Adm. Francis A. Buncie in command of the North Atlantic Squadron. Rumors have been in circulation at the Navy Department that this officer will be relieved of his command before the 4th of March. Secretary Herbert, who has just returned from Charleston, declined to discuss the report one way or the other, declaring that if the Department proposed to take such action he could not anticipate it. We are assured that there is nothing on file to indicate that Rear Adm. Buncie will leave his command for several months as yet. Rear Adm. Buncie's tour of sea duty will expire in June. Already several officers are being talked of as possibilities in connection with this command. The most prominent is Commo. Montgomery Sicard, in command of the New York Navy Yard. If seniority is followed in the matter of selection, Commo. Joseph N. Miller, who commands the Boston Navy Yard, will be first offered the billet. In any event, the command lies between Commos. Sicard and Buncie.

It may be that Rear Adm. Buncie will succeed Rear Adm. F. M. Ramsay as Chief of the Bureau of Navigation. Adm. Ramsay will retire in April, and there promises to be quite a scramble among officers of the Navy for the billet. Capt. Robley D. Evans, now secretary of the Light House Board, has given up all hope of succeeding Rear Adm. Walker as president of the board, and his friends say that he is now bending his energies to secure the appointment as Chief of the bureau on Rear Adm. Ramsay's retirement. The presidency of the Light House Board promises to again become a bone of contention between the Army and Navy. The next Secretary of War and Secretary Herbert's successor, will consider the matter, and it is hoped by naval officers that a flag officer will be selected who will outrank the military members of the board, and thus secure the presidency.

The gunboat Castine will start on Friday next for the South Atlantic station, thus increasing the strength of the United States force in South Atlantic waters to three vessels. Capt. Yates Stirling is now in command, by virtue of his seniority. Some naval officers believe that a flag officer should be sent to the South Atlantic, and the next Secretary is expected to take the matter under consideration. There will probably be no change in the other squadron commands until next winter.

Within the next few months a number of changes in ship commands will occur. The retirement of Rear Adm. Ramsay in April will promote Capt. Albert Kauts to flag rank, and will necessitate his relief from the command of the receiving ship Wabash. Capt. Silas Casey, now in command of the receiving ship Vermont, completes his three years' billet in April, and as it is the policy of the Department to limit a tour of sea duty to this period he will be detached and given shore duty. The tour of duty of Capt. C. S. Cotton, commanding the Philadelphia, has expired, and his detachment may be expected any day. The Minneapolis will have a new commanding officer within the next few months, as Capt. G. A. Wadleigh, her commander, will soon be available for shore duty.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. D. F.—Write to the Adjutant General, Department of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill., and he may furnish you with a copy of Circular 10, Department Missouri, Dec. 28, 1896, which gives a manual of calisthenics, etc., with music used in the Navy. A first sergeant can be transferred from the company in which he holds that position to another company as a private without the formality of reduction, as the official order of transfer by the proper authority fully covers the whole transaction. A sergeant can place a corporal in arrest in case of emergency, promptly reporting his action, with cause, etc., to the company commander.

W. H. G.—Candidates for appointment to the Naval Academy must be between 15 and 20 years of age and physically sound.

S. E. C.—Q. M. Gen. George H. Weeks, U. S. A., will be 64 years of age on Feb. 3, 1898.

J. N.—The next vacancy in the First District of Massachusetts to Annapolis will be in 1899. The age limit is from 15 to 20 years. An acquaintance with your Congressman might help you.

J. M.—You can examine the records in our office any time you choose to call, and you may there find all the names of the officers you mention.

P. W. D.—Great Barrington, Mass., is in the First Congressional District, and there will be a vacancy there for West Point in 1898. The name of the Congressman is Ashley B. Wright, of North Adams, Mass.

G. P.—Selections for transfer to the Hospital Corps are made upon the application of the post surgeon, approved by the Post Commander, stating age of the soldier, and if over 40 years, his special qualifications, character, physical condition and habits, whether for existing or prospective vacancy and the date of expiration of current enlistment. Ask the Hospital Steward on duty at post, and he will give you, doubtless, any further information you desire.

A. I. M. asks: When will the Fifth, Sixth and Eighth Congressional Districts of Tennessee be vacant at West Point? Answer.—The Fifth District is now vacant. The Sixth will be vacant in 1898 and the Eighth in 1901.

H. U. E.—Gen. Russell A. Alger's genesis as a Secretary of War may be said to date from 1896, when he took an active part in the McKinley's campaign, but his natural birth occurred in 1836, on the date given last week, viz., Feb. 27.

J. N. G.—The 13th District of New York will be vacant for West Point in 1901 and for Annapolis in 1898.

P. T. F.—The next vacancies in chaplaincies in the Army will be March 8 and Aug. 8, 1897. There will be no retirements in 1898 or 1899.

C. C. S.—You must satisfy the recruiting officer of your proficiency. Probably your experience would be sufficient. The Ossipee went out of commission and was sold some years ago.

H. D.—The next examination for West Point is in June, and candidates appointed up to that time are expected to take the examination then.

O. T. Z.—Read instruction in signalling by Giddings, for sale by D. Appleton & Co., New York City. Price, 50 cents. The Manual of Guard Duty, 50 cents. Artillery D. R., price, \$1, both for sale at our office, and the Military Code and Regulations of the State, published by Messrs. Banks Bros., Murray street, New York City.

VOLUNTEER.—In further answer to that in "Journal," of Feb. 13 last, we might say that Par. 76, A. R., 1895, prescribes that "the uniform of an officer on the retired list is that of his actual rank in his regiment or corps when retired, except that the number of the regiment or insignia of corps or department will not be worn. A retired officer, with brevet commission, either in the regular or volunteer service of the Army of the United States, may wear the uniform of his highest brevet grade, and an officer who has held a commission, not brevet, in the volunteer service, may wear the uniform of his highest grade in that service, except that the number of the regiment or insignia of corps or department will not be worn." As a matter of fact, officers of the regular Army on the retired list do wear the uniform of their previous higher grade, and by courtesy are addressed by the title of such grade.

MARINE.—The answer to "J. C. A. V." concerning the 103d article of War, in "Journal," of Feb. 13, 1897, (page 431), fully answers your question.

SERGEANT asks: (1) Is it a fact that the escort of a general officer or other distinguished person renders no honors to his inferiors in rank, or to an armed body commanded by his inferior? Answer.—Yes. (2) Having escorted the dignity to the reviewing stand and being thereupon dismissed, the escort forms line at the side of the stand to witness the march past: Is it still considered as an escort, or an ordinary body of troops? What honors, if any, should it render? Answer.—It is still considered as an escort, unless positively ordered to the contrary and renders no honors.

D. A. E.—Under Par. 3, Circular 13, A. G. O., 1895, you cannot be re-enlisted until after the expiration of two months from the date of discharge, without special authority from the A. G. O., and, being a late member of the Hospital Corps, you must have the authority of the Surgeon General, whether you re-enlist before or after that period. You could only be re-enlisted as a private and then await the action of the Surgeon General upon the question of your detail as an acting hospital steward. Write to the Navy Department for data as to apothecaries in the Navy.

All officers of the Army discharged on their own application under Act of Congress approved March 3, 1869, are requested to send their address quickly to Isaac d'Irny, late Captain 27th U. S. Infantry, Kansas City, Mo., who will impart important information.

#### PERSONALS.

Gen. I. S. Catlin, U. S. A., of Brooklyn, is at present in Florida.

Maj. E. S. Godfrey, 7th Cav., is spending a portion of his leave at San Diego, Cal.

Capt. C. L. Cooper, 10th U. S. Cav., on leave, is visiting at 2219 Green street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Lieut. J. A. Moss, 25th Inf., on leave at Lafayette, La., has had his leave extended one month.

Lieut. B. B. Buck, 16th U. S. Infantry, on sick leave, is at present at the Soldiers' Home, Washington, D. C.

Lieut. R. P. Johnston, Corps of Engineers, stationed at St. Augustine, was at Key West this week superintending the construction of siege and mortar batteries.

Lieut. L. W. V. Kennon, 6th Inf., is expected at Fort Thomas, Ky., in a few days. He has been on duty with the Intercontinental Railway Commission since April, 1891.

Lieut. Charles G. Morton, 6th Inf., bade farewell to friends and comrades at Fort Thomas on Washington's Birthday, and started to Augusta, Me., for National Guard duty.

Capt. J. M. Burns, 17th U. S. Inf., secretary of the Society of the Army of West Virginia, is busy with arrangements for the approaching meeting of that organization in Columbus, Ohio.

Lieut. E. F. Ladd, 9th Cav., lately on leave at the Ebbitt House, Washington, D. C., has received many congratulations on his detail as secretary and treasurer of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia.

Lieut. Lewis D. Greene, 7th Inf., has been granted delay for examination for promotion until May, 1897. It is understood that the War Department did not accept the conclusion of the Medical Board in his case.

Mr. James W. G. Walker, son of Rear Adm. John G. Walker, U. S. N., was married Feb. 24 at Washington, D. C., to Miss Nina Chinn. There was a distinguished company present at the wedding, which took place at Rock Creek Church.

The engagement is announced of Miss Lillian M. Stokes, daughter of Mr. Thomas Stokes, to Mr. Robert McMaster Gillespie, son of Col. George L. Gillespie, Corp of Engineers, U. S. A. The wedding will take place soon after Easter.

The President on Thursday, Feb. 25, sent the following nominations to the Senate: Lieut. Comdr. Uriel Sebree, U. S. N., to be a Commander; Lieut. U. R. Harris, to be a Lieutenant Commander; Lieut. (junior grade), A. N. Mayer, to be a Lieutenant.

Maj. Gen. Thomas H. Ruger, U. S. A., and Maj. J. R. Myrick, 5th Art., and Capt. S. C. Mills, A. D. C., were among the many distinguished guests at the annual ball of the 4th Regiment, New Jersey N. G., at Jersey City, on the evening of Feb. 24.

Bids for the construction of the first series of buildings at the military post at Fort Spokane post were opened recently at the office of Capt. W. H. Miller, Constructing Quartermaster in that city. It is expected the contract can be closed up and work commenced by April 1.

A special meeting of the United Service Club, New York City, is to be held on the evening of Feb. 27, to act upon a proposed amendment that the officers of the Army at Forts Slocum, Schuyler, Hamilton, Wadsworth and Hancock and at Willets Point, shall be considered non-resident members.

The marriage of Baron V. August von Ketteler, German Minister to Mexico, to Miss Mathilda Cass Ledyard, daughter of Mr. Henry B. Ledyard, president of the Michigan Central Railroad, formerly Lieutenant 4th U. S. Artillery, occurred at the Church of Saints Peter and Paul, Detroit, on Feb. 24. The ceremony, which was witnessed by a large and fashionable gathering, was performed by the Right Rev. Bishop Foley, of the Michigan diocese.

Col. R. E. A. Crofton, U. S. A., before leaving Fort Bayard recently with his family for Wilmington, Del., was presented with two handsome testimonials, the first consisting of a solid silver punch bowl, gold lined, costing \$250. The second, a solid silver loving cup, also gold lined, costing \$100. The punch bowl was presented by the enlisted men of the 15th Infantry, the second by the Fort Bayard Squadron of the 7th Cavalry. Both testimonials bear suitable inscriptions.

Chaplain C. C. Bateman, U. S. A., having been ordered from Fort Assiniboine to Fort Sherman, the "River Press," of Benton, Mont., says: "Many regrets are expressed by the chaplain's numerous friends in civil as well as military life. He has been a pioneer of religious and educational work in the thriving town of Havre. As a lecturer upon popular subjects Chaplain Bateman has been heard in all the leading cities of the State; and his name appears as literary lecturer in the catalogue of Montana Wesleyan University, before whose classes he gives a course once a year. He has, during his long residence at Assiniboine, contributed in many ways to the general welfare of the people in addition to his regular duties as Chaplain.

Lieut. J. C. Hooker, Revenue Cutter Service, on duty on the Grant, stationed at Seattle, was married Feb. 16 at Ash Grove, Mo., to Miss Josie Harshbarger, of that city. The Rev. R. W. Hooker, of Jackson, Tenn., brother of the groom, officiated. A local paper referring to the occasion, says: "Lieut. Hooker is a graduate of the Naval Academy, and is an accomplished gentleman both by birth and education. By his own personal efforts he has risen to a position of honor and trust in his Government's service. He will be with his ship in the coming summer in Behring sea. Miss Josie, his bride, is the accomplished daughter of Mr. J. W. Harshbarger, of Ashland. Neither time nor means have been spared in her education, and few young ladies have had better opportunities for social and literary culture." The married couple expect to reach Seattle about March 15.

The following officers of the services were in Washington, D. C., during the past week, located as follows: Col. H. C. Corbin, U. S. A., Adjutant General's Department, at Army and Navy Club, Washington, until after the inauguration. Col. Corbin is Chief of Aides of the inaugural parade. Maj. John S. Wither, U. S. A., Pay Department, at the Ebbitt House. Lieut. Col. William J. Volkmar, U. S. A., Adjutant General's Department, at the Army and Navy Club. Col. Horace Jewett, 21st Inf., U. S. A., at the Richmond, on leave. Capt. Andrew H. Russell, U. S. A., of the Ordnance Department, at the St. James, while on leave. Capt. S. Y. Seyburn, 10th Inf., U. S. A., at the Arlington. Lieut. John B. Bernadon, U. S. N., from Newport, at the Army and Navy Club. Lieut. C. A. Bradbury, U. S. N., retired, at 2004 13th street, N. W., for an indefinite period. Lieut. A. Dunlap, U. S. N., of the Blake, at 1315 New Hampshire avenue, while performing duty in connection with the coast survey. Lieut. George P. Colocoreses, U. S. N., of the Naval Academy, at 2137 Lee Roy place. Lieut. J. C. Wilson, U. S. N., of the Midvale Steel Works, at the Army and Navy Club.



## JEFFERSON BARRACKS.

At 11.30 a. m. Friday, February 19, while guard mount was going on, a fire spread rapidly in the ridge of rooms of one of the old buildings. An attempt was made to use water, but the little obtainable showed it was of no avail. A mounted man was dispatched to Carondelet, as no telephone is allowed at the post, and a pressure was obtained of about 25 pounds, after some twenty minutes' delay. By using axes, to cut away part of the building, a lot of officers' quarters were saved and an adjacent barracks. The building is one of those put up about 1827, so it has served its day. Though the offices of post commander, adjutant, clerks, printing office and court martial room and post office are out, red tape will be thus reduced. The burning will save the expense of tearing down, and it is a very hygienic method of getting rid of old buildings, though an undesirable one. With no water and no telephone, or means of communication with the outside world, we propose to sleep in our clothes and keep our property packed for quick removal. Seventy years of existence ought to have allowed this post an opportunity to have gotten at least a water supply, if not a telephone. The former is at least necessary for fires, if not for drinking purposes, and the latter to call an engine, or to obtain increased pumping. Our lack of facilities, however, which now exist in various ways, give us an opportunity to look for something in the future.

## THE U. S. INFANTRY AND CAVALRY SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Army and Navy Journal":

In a recent number of the "Journal" appeared an attack by one signed Atlantic, on the U. S. Infantry and Cavalry School, which was based on gross ignorance of the school, its scope, course and methods. The greatest virtue of a critic, whatever his subject may be, is knowledge of the theme he is discussing. That neither Atlantic nor Capt. Pettit possessed this cardinal virtue is shown by the fact that their criticisms are based on the course and methods in vogue at Leavenworth twelve or fifteen years ago, when the school was in its infancy.

The school has made very rapid strides during its last two administrations, and especially under the present one, which is, by far, the ablest it has ever had. Had the school's critics taken the trouble to inform themselves, they would have discovered that the "scrapping for tenents" was abolished nearly two years ago, and also the "school-boy methods of recitations," if such they were, resulting therefrom.

A great many have advocated the system of lectures instead of recitations at this school. In all the educational institutions of the country the latter system is considered best, where students can be brought together in small sections. Where the system of lectures is used to any great extent, it will be found where sections are so large and unwieldy as to make individual recitations impossible, or where there is only very limited time to cover a subject. Even where subjects are taught by lectures it will be found that numerous "quizzes" are held and very frequent "mid-term" examinations. Unfortunately there are always a number of drones in each class at Fort Leavenworth, for whom there is only one system, namely that of daily recitations. The latter is the only practicable system there. If Atlantic had ever seen the workings of the school he would find that the men at the foot of the class are always advocating the lecture system, and not their more capable and energetic classmates, who take pride in their work and wish to make the most of the excellent opportunities the Government has given them.

Atlantic will also find that the men who object to the system of "class standing" belong to this same class, and are always at the bottom. They lack the energy and ability to stand among their more brilliant brethren at the top and try to deride and belittle what it is impossible for them to attain. Class standing is made out on the results of examinations and practical work, and the latter always has the greater weight. Surely every fair-minded officer is willing to be judged on such a basis.

Judging from Atlantic's statement that certain exercises are not practiced in his regiment, we readily understand why there is such an aversion on the part of his fellow officers to going to the Leavenworth School. The school is not a place for officers who are not willing to instruct their commands in the rudiments of military knowledge. The school is a place for bright, capable officers, who are willing to work and to work hard, and these are the officers who are now seeking these details.

The term "kindergarten," by the use of which Atlantic shows his unfairness, is a relic of days when officers were detailed to the school for the purpose of discipline. Happily, from the majority of regiments, only the most capable officers are detailed. The writer had the honor of being a member of the last class at the school, and in no case did he know of any student officers who were treated as "children or deprived of any of the rights or emoluments accorded officers by law, regulations or justice."

The U. S. Infantry and Cavalry School is an institution that has come to stay, and despite the unfounded assertions of the lazy and indifferent, is doing more to educate the officer and to propagate a proper military spirit and knowledge than any other force in the Army at the present time. The writer has heard one of our brightest, most capable and best informed officers state that the course, scope and methods of the school compares very favorably with the similar institution of the German Army in Berlin. His comparisons were based on personal observation of both schools.

Let officers, before criticising the Fort Leavenworth School, inform themselves of the work it is doing, and give justice where justice is due. TRUTH.

## FORT SILL, O. T.

Fort Sill, O. T., Feb. 17, 1897.

The Charles Herron Masquerade Ball has now passed into social history as the most splendid private entertainment ever given at this post. The consensus of opinion seems to be that Fort Sill has seen an entertainment which far exceeds in elaboration and beauty anything which has gone before. Such a result was not reached by the mere spending of money, but by the exercise of exquisite taste and a scrupulous regard to every detail which goes to make a truly grand entertainment a howling success. In spite of much ill-judged censure the ball has proved as successful from a utilitarian as from a social point of view. Shortly after the guests had assembled the ball was opened with a grand march to the sweet strains of music rendered by the El Company orchestra. This was followed by several unique cotillon figures and fancy quadrilles, after which the regular programme of dances was carried out.

It is almost impossible to give an idea of the variety and taste of costumes displayed by the guests. Among

the most elegant noted were the following: Mrs. Burbank, court lady; Miss Elise Burbank, lamp shade; Mrs. Schenck, fencing girl; Mrs. Osborne, Mrs. Paulding, two little girls in blue; Mrs. Eldridge, Quakeress; Miss Mary Eldridge, morning; Mrs. Comegys, peasant girl; Miss Barlow, Indian maiden; Miss Lucie Kellogg, night; Miss Kate Kellogg, peasant girl; Capt. Burbank, Schlitz's joker; Lieut. Saville, clown; Lieut. Berry, nurse; Lieut. Schenck, baby; Lieut. Herron, clown; Lieut. Charles, the new woman; Lieut. Beach, Jolly Tar; Lieut. Osborne, darling; Mr. Heath Eldridge, Brownie; Mr. Teddy Comegys, British redcoat; Mr. Neil Comegys, page; Lieut. Goode, Irish woman; Capt. Paulding, gladiator; Capt. Brown, Chinaman; Mr. Quinette, dude. During the evening several flash light pictures of groups were taken. Dancing was continued until a late hour, and even after the end of the programme many of the guests lingered to discuss the costumes and events of the evening.

OKLAHOMA.

## FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEX.

Feb. 17, 1897.

The annual inspection of Fort Sam Houston, Tex., just now being made by Lieut. Col. H. W. Lawton, Inspr. Gen., has caused the usual great interest. The principal functions taking place during the past three days have been enjoyed as field days by the ladies of the post and their fortunate town friends. The first event was a grand review. The Inspector General received it from Lieut. Col. Whitside, 5th Cav., who had command of the garrison force consisting of the three arms. Maj. Harbach's battalion of the 18th Infantry possessed of the best soldierly qualities, displayed them with the finest effect. Capt. Dillenback's light battery is simply fine. It rides and drives with firmness, precision and inspiring dash. Col. Whitside's squadron of the 5th Cavalry, consisting of four troops—Thomas' Bishop's, Paddock's, and Forbush's—is a fine and a strong one. It went by at a walk and trot with firmness and precision, and at the gallop it swept past with a solidity and dash that fetched an enthusiastic glow to the cheek of the veteran. The second event was a ten-mile march of an advance guard of all arms. Camp was pitched, outposts established, patrols sent out, and all the front entrenched with quietness and great rapidity. The guards were changed and the General sounded to strike camp. The orders for the necessary detail indicating the strength and location of the outpost designating the line of rifle, gun pits and trenches were given with that directness and brevity so characteristic of soldiers. The third event was the defense and attack of an important height four miles north of the post in front of which five roads leading to the north come together. The country for some miles to the north is slightly hilly, and thinly wooded. Capt. C. R. Paul, 18th Inf., commanded the force that was skillfully disposed to defend and hold the position which controlled all these roads. Capt. C. H. Potter, 18th Inf., commanded the force that had marched at an early hour several miles north of the position and was to attack and capture the place. The affair opened with the prettiest kind of cavalry action, in which a whole troop became entrapped and both sides became very wary. Just at noon the message was flashed to Gen. Bliss that the exercise had been declared ended.

## U. S. S. MACHIAS.

Canton, China, Jan. 12, 1897.

If there is any treaty port in China north of Hong Kong which the little Machias has not visited, it was because there was not enough water for her to get there in. All the ports on the Yangtse River from Shanghai to Hankow were visited in the fall of 1896, and the ports north of there were visited the summer before. Starting from Chemulpo on Nov. 7, the Machias went to Chefoo, and on the 19th left the latter place for a "touch and go" cruise south as far as Hong Kong.

The ship had not been in dry dock for over six months and her bottom had become very foul, so that her speed was reduced about two knots. Some of the messes claimed to have had a stew from oysters taken from her bottom, but they were not quite that large.

On Nov. 19 the ship left Chefoo for Ningpo, arriving there on the 22d, and remaining there a week. Some of the chief petty officers had a few days' leave to visit Shanghai to buy musical instruments for the orchestra, and now the Machias boasts a very fine set of musicians, the orchestra consisting of two mandolins, two violins, two guitars and two banjos. After six weeks' practice they do remarkably well and help every evening pass the more pleasantly than before.

There had been no American man-of-war at Ningpo for over three years, but the next port had been even longer without a sight of the "Stars and Stripes." Wenchow lies between Ningpo and Foochow, and about 325 miles south of Shanghai. It is an open port, but very little business is carried on there, one steamer to Shanghai every ten days sufficing for the wants of the twenty-nine men, women and children comprising the total foreign population.

But one American, a member of the Customs Service, lives there, and it is said that he had never seen America, having been born in China. While a British and a French gunboat stopped in occasionally, no American war vessel had been there since 1879, when the old Monocacy spent a few days there, and once before the Palos had been there.

Two days were spent at Wenchow, and then Foochow was reached on Dec. 4, where four days were spent at Pagoda Anchorage. The steam launch made the trip up to the city of Foochow every day and an opportunity was given to see the capital of a province said to contain nearly as many people as the whole United States.

Amoy was visited on the 9th and a week was spent there. This was the only port where the Machias had been before, as it was there in April, 1895, that the German steamer Tai-cheong was saved from fire by the prompt action of the "fire party" of the Machias; in recognition of this the Emperor of Germany sent his photograph to the commanding officer. Swatow was reached on the 17th, and on the 21st the Machias left for Hong Kong, arriving there the next day.

At all of the ports visited, first-class conduct men were given an opportunity to see the Chinese cities, and in some, general liberty was given, but from each port nothing but praise was heard of the excellent conduct of the "Machias boys" and of their general good appearance. An unusually large number are Americans and the remark that "Why, they all look like Americans!" goes to prove that the United States does not longer depend on foreigners to man her men-of-war.

In Hong Kong were found the German and Mexican flagships and a few British ships, etc. The Mexican Yarangoya was on a cruise around the world with a class of midshipmen on board, and the day after Christmas she left for Singapore.

On the 26th of December the Machias went into dry dock for the customary cleaning and overhauling, and as soon as the work was finished and coal taken on board she came up to Canton on January 6, starting from the dock yard.

During the late war with Japan the Chinese made several barriers in the river below Canton, two being bridges with narrow openings for the passage of ships, and these openings could be closed when necessary. Another obstruction, and far more formidable, consisted of stones sunk in the bottom of the river, which even now have only nine feet over them at low water and fifteen at high.

Owing to a slight accident to one of the boilers, the Machias was delayed half an hour, and that half hour caused a day to be spent below the barrier, waiting for the tide to rise.

The Machias has been in commission well over two years, and only three changes have been made in the officers during that time, Chief Engr. Zane relieving Chief Engr. Dixon in March, 1896, and Comdr. Mackenzie and Lieut. Mahan relieving Comdr. Houston and Lieut. Day in October last. Many of the crew have but a short time to serve and the question now is "Will the Machias go home this spring?"

Probably not, as she is the only vessel of the squadron which can go to Canton or Bangkok, or to Hankow at certain times of the year. Of course, the Monocacy isn't counted as she is bound to stay north.

That the Machias is regarded as efficient by others, the following article from the Hong Kong "Telegraph" shows: "The U. S. S. Machias, which arrived here on the 22d of December from Swatow, evidently has some smart gunners on board. The rapidity with which numerous salutes were fired from her glittering broadsides was the subject of considerable comment, and deservedly so, for it was remarkably well done."

## THE ARMY MAGAZINE RIFLE.

To the Editor of the "Army and Navy Journal":

In the interesting article signed "X" on "The Army Magazine Rifle," in your paper of Feb. 6, the assumed case of muzzle velocity of 1,141 f. s. for the .30 caliber rifle and of 830 f. s. for the .45 caliber Springfield after 500 yards have been passed, seems difficult to answer. Yet it should have some answer from those who assert that the rifle adopted upon the recommendation of a most painstaking board of Army officers of signal ability is less accurate at distances beyond 500 yards in a wind than was the Springfield rifle (of course, before a wind gauge was adopted for it).

The report of Col. Ward (referred to editorially) manifests the strong preference for a wind gauge entertained by most of those familiar with target practice. It must be admitted that a gauge tends to wonderful precision in the hands of a man in the "sharpshooter" class. It may also be conceded that as a pastime such precision is passing pleasant. But by many (among whom the writer is one), it is sincerely hoped the preference will not prevail for the militia and certainly not for the Army. Since practice on the range for both ought to be made to conform (more than it does now and) as much as is practicable to conditions similar to those in the field; and firing by a line (in extended order) never has been and probably never will be done with the aid of the wind gauge. Very little skirmish firing from 1,000 to 1,200 yards can be so done. It seems scarcely worth while therefore for these, and certainly not for greater distances, to provide an instrument to be attached to the rifle, easily disarranged in actual service.

Careful aim is difficult to obtain in action at the best, but it is more likely to come about if in place of a wind gauge the men are instructed to allow for deflection by wind. The Small Arms Firing Regulations have some excellent suggestions (indeed, what in that book is not admirable?) for firing at moving objects, and similar ones could be taught, it is believed, with but little difficulty for placing a bullet deflected by the wind at the point intended. AN EX-OFFICER OF VOLTS.

Philadelphia, Saturday, Feb. 20, 1897.

## FORT BLISS, TEX.

Fort Bliss, Tex., Feb. 18, 1897.

Cards are out for the marriage of Mr. James Magoffin with Miss Anne Buford, daughter of Consul and Mrs. Buford, of Juarez, Mexico. The ceremony, which is to be solemnized at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in El Paso, is to be a very swell affair, followed afterward by a reception at the home of the Consul in Juarez, Mexico. Mr. James Magoffin gave a theater party of twenty-seven last week, a number of officers and ladies from the post being among the guests. Gen. Mariano Escobedo, of the Mexican Army, passed through El Paso this week en route to California, where he goes in search of health.

Rev. Father Sherman, son of the late Gen. Sherman, and a Jesuit priest of considerable repute, will deliver a sermon in the Church of the Immaculate Conception in El Paso this week. Father Sherman is a cousin of Mrs. Miles, wife of Gen. Nelson A. Miles.

The canteen which was recently burned down, and considerable property destroyed, is fully equipped and again in complete working trim, under the able management of Lieut. Duval.

The troops were paid the first of the week. The light-weight football team of the post will play the High School team next Sunday on the Fort Bliss grounds.

Arrangements are being made to give a large hop on Washington's Birthday at the post hall by the members of the Social Club of the post.

Lieut. and Mrs. Duval entertained the High Five Club last night, and as usual a very delightful time was enjoyed by all. Besides the members of the club there were a number of invited guests from El Paso.

Through the kindness of Col. Van Velsah the orchestra played at Chopin Hall, in El Paso, this week. The occasion being a Valentine party and social given by the pupils of the Ursuline Convent.

Lieut. and Mrs. Nathaniel McClure gave a card party last week, the game being the very popular one of "high five." The prizes, which were a cut glass vinaigrette and a silver pocket knife, were won by Mrs. Griffith and Lieut. Griffith. A delicious supper was served, and it is needless to say was greatly enjoyed.

A delightful tea was given last week by Mrs. Winans. Only the ladies of the cavalry received with her, being Mrs. Ogden, Mrs. Augur and Mrs. Nathaniel McClure. The table, which looked very dainty with its beautiful drawn work, cut glass and silver, was presided over by Miss Augur, Miss Jane Augur, Miss Anne Buford and Miss Jennie Baldwin, all looking very sweet and attractive in their pretty evening gowns of silk and organza. Refreshments of many delicious kinds were served. Many guests from El Paso were present, besides all of the officers and ladies from the post.

Invitations to an informal hop, to be given at the post hall this week, have been sent out to a large number of people.





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Among the reports published in Maj. Gen. Merritt's  
Circular, No. 1, of 1897, to which we referred last week,  
relating to the field work of troops under his command  
last year, is that of Lieut. R. F. Day, 20th Inf., Quarter-  
master of the Fort Leavenworth column, which marched  
to Fort Riley and return. This officer shows that the  
march cost the Government just \$75 over and above  
what it would have cost the Government had the troops  
remained in garrison. Referring to the difficulties on the  
trip in connection with the wagon train, he states that  
all of them would have disappeared had the command  
been supplied with Army wagons and six-mule teams  
instead of escort wagons. To expect four mules to draw  
the load over ordinary roads is to expect the impossible.  
The use of escort wagons would only be possible in the  
summer, over exceptionally good roads, and in good  
weather. Each of the nine organizations were furnished  
one four-mule escort wagon, two messes had one, the  
hospital had one and headquarters had an Army wagon  
and six mules. The six-mule Army wagon was loaded to  
its utmost capacity, and it made the trip without the  
slightest drawback. He concludes with the statement  
that he is within bounds in saying that a battalion of in-  
fantry could make practice marches in any portion of the  
United States, except where wood is not plentiful, at ac-  
tual cost to the United States of their maintenance in  
garrison, provided the wagon transportation is equal to  
the emergency.

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Imported Turkish, Extra Bright Plug Cut, Ex-  
tra Bright Long Cut and Marburg Bros.' Cele-  
brated Brand "Pickings."

In answer to inquiry whether an Indian scout on fur-  
lough was entitled to pay for use and risk of horse and  
equipments, the Paymaster General says: "It has long  
been the rule not to allow pay for the use and risk of  
horse, etc., when the scout has been absent on furlough  
or when sick, and the U. S. thereby deprived of the use  
of the horse." (P. M. G. O., Feb. 9, 1897.)

Tuesday, Feb. 23, was the 119th anniversary of the  
battle of Spanktown. The Rahway, New Jersey, of to-  
day is what was known in the last century as Spanktown,  
the name having been given because an early settler  
publicly took his spouse across his knee and chastised  
her. Feb. 23, 1777, the American forces under Gen.  
Maxwell, were stationed at Spanktown, and a successful  
battle was fought against the Third British Brigade,  
stationed at Perth Amboy.

The body of Capt. Philo McGiffin, who shot himself  
at the Post-Graduate Hospital, New York, recently,  
has been sent to the home of his mother at Washington,  
Pa. The body was dressed in a Captain's uniform of the  
Imperial Chinese navy. Previous to his removal to the  
hospital, the deceased had rather hoped to go to sea  
again, but was at last obliged to give this idea up. The  
Cuban Junta made overtures to him to enter their ser-  
vice, but McGiffin for some reason believed they were not  
acting in good faith and refused.

The ordnance experts of the Navy are interested in a  
new style of armor plate, a patent for which was granted  
on Tuesday of last week to Robert H. Sayer, of Beth-  
lehem. In his specifications Mr. Sayer claims a great  
improvement on any armor plate heretofore manufac-  
tured. His invention consists of taking regulation armor  
plate, which has not been Harveyized, and inserting in  
the face hardened steel plugs about six inches apart.  
The inventor's idea is that projectiles fired at the plate  
will strike one or more of the hardened steel plugs and  
be demolished with ease, and easier than if they were  
fired at plates made under other processes.

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THE PROCTER & GAMBLE CO., CHICAGO.

Adj. Gen. Tillinghast, of New York, in G. O. 3, dated  
Feb. 10, 1897, announces some important changes and  
regulations, all of which are in the right direction. The  
following are the important announcements made in the  
order: "The State uniform for enlisted men of the Na-  
tional Guard shall consist of a dress coat, dress hat,  
campaign hat, fatigue cap, blouse, trousers, and, when  
needed, leggings, overcoats and ponchos. Such regiments  
and battalions as desire at their expense to provide their  
own dress uniform may do so, subject to the approval  
of the Commander-in-Chief, and in that case shall not  
receive from the State dress coats nor dress hats. The  
dress coats shall be changed as fast as practicable from  
double to single breasted coats. The Buzzacott military  
cooking outfit shall be obtained for issue to organizations  
as fast as the disposable means will permit. 1st and  
Quartermaster Sergeants of infantry companies shall be  
armed with the rifle, and the swords, throgs, and revol-  
vers and holsters issued heretofore to them are to be re-  
turned to the Chief of Ordnance. Thereafter, when  
colors are to be issued to regiments and battalions, they  
shall consist of one United States and one State color,  
each of the dimensions prescribed for the colors carried  
by regiments of the United States Army. The dimen-  
sions of colors carried by regiments and battalions will  
hereafter be 5 feet 6 inches fly, 4 feet 4 inches on the  
pike, which will be 9 feet long, including spear-head and  
ferrule; the union will be 2 feet 6 inches long. In ab-  
stracts and accounts bills have been received made by  
commanding officers as creditors for furnishing supplies  
to their respective commands; such bills being manifest-  
ly improper and their legality questionable, they will not  
be audited hereafter. The decision that 1st and Quar-  
termaster Sergeants in future shall carry rifles is one of  
common sense, and is another one of the recommenda-  
tions of ex-Inspector General McLewee's that has been  
adopted.

Little Greece is putting the rest of Europe to shame  
by throwing herself into the breach to defend the Chris-  
tian against the Turk, and her action recalls the days  
of Marco Bozzaris and his band of Suliotas, when at  
midnight in his guarded tent, the Turk was dreaming of  
the hour, when Greece, her knee in supplication bent,  
should tremble at his power, "and woke to die midst  
flame and smoke." The island of Crete is the center of  
disturbance. Though the powers are not willing to let  
Greece have her own way with it just yet, the proba-  
bilities are that this disturbance will ultimately result  
in the transfer of Crete to Greece, thus completing the  
work of three-quarters of a century of aspiration and  
longing. Meanwhile, a sort of fire-line has been extend-  
ed around Crete by the warships of England, Russia,  
France, Italy and Austria, to prevent the conflagration  
there extending further. Advice received from Crete,  
Feb. 15, announce that a Greek "Corps of Occupation,"  
consisting of infantry, artillery and engineers, and num-  
bering 1,500 men, have landed at Platanias, fourteen  
kilometres west of Canea. The warships of the powers  
had previously landed strong detachments at Retimo,  
Heraklion, and Canea, and they have bombarded a po-  
sition occupied by the insurgents at Canea.

Turkey has four times as many soldiers as Greece,  
and they are fighting men, but the navy of Greece,  
what there is of it, is in a better condition than that of  
Turkey. A dispatch of Feb. 17, from Constantinople,  
says: "The Ministry of Marine has asked the Govern-  
ment for a credit of 500,000 pounds Turkish to defray  
the expenses incurred in preparing and mobilizing the  
Turkish fleet. Two squadrons are now being prepared.  
The first, which will comprise four warships and ten  
torpedo boats, will sail within five days, under command  
of Vice Admiral Faik. The second will be commanded  
by Vice Admiral Hassan, and will consist of five war-  
ships and ten torpedo boats. Fifty thousand naval re-  
serves have been summoned for service in addition to  
the redifs of the 3d Army Corps, now at Salonika, and  
the redifs of Trebizond have also been ordered to join  
their colors, making altogether 76,800 men who will be  
concentrated near the Greek frontier."

## ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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## PROSPECTS FOR SERVICE LEGISLATION.

Personal legislation of any kind, with the exception of the bill for the retirement of enlisted men of the Navy and Marine Corps, has no chance of passage at this session. The House Military Committee held what will probably be its last meeting on Tuesday, and on the same day the Senate Naval Committee held its last session for the consideration of all measures except the Naval Appropriation bill. It will therefore be seen that there is no chance of legislation for the two services other than the regular Appropriation bills and the retirement bill above referred to.

Senator Hawley has given up hope of getting through at this session his bill increasing the artillery force to seven regiments. Representative Hull declares he will not call a meeting of his committee to consider such a proposition, even if it be adopted by the Senate. Mr. Hull wants reorganization for the whole Army, and he says that the only way it can come is by securing reorganization and increase at the same time.

The Chandler retirement bill for officers of the Navy will not be passed at this session. There is some hope in naval circles that it will be tacked as a rider to the Naval Appropriation bill, but it can be positively stated that there is no chance of this being done. It may also be stated that there is little chance if any of an amendment to the bill by the Senate Committee authorizing additional vessels. If there is such increase it will be confined to vessels of the smaller types.

The act to provide for appointment by brevet of active or retired officers of the U. S. A., (H. R. 3719) has become law, without the signature of the President, it having not been returned within the time prescribed by the Constitution. The act is as follows: "Be it enacted, etc., That all officers of the Regular Army of the United States, active or retired, who served in the volunteer forces during the late war may, at the discretion of the President, receive a brevet in the Regular Army equal to the highest rank held or the highest brevet received in the said volunteer forces, and be commissioned accordingly as of the date of such brevet: Provided, That they have not already received a brevet of equal or higher grade in the Regular Army."

## OUIDA HAS HER OPINION.

There is much good sense in this vigorous expression of opinion which was interjected into the debate in the Senate on Feb. 17 concerning the bill for restricting immigration:

Sir: Will you pardon my addressing you concerning the bill which I see is before Congress, in intent to exclude emigrants who can not read. If you exclude Italians who can not read you will lose the best and most laborious part of the population, and you will admit the trash of cities. It is not a test which can be properly applied to Italians, or indeed to any populace. Why should you suppose the power to spell out the crimes recorded in cheap newspapers is any guaranty for either virtue or intelligence?

In Italy the peasantry are almost entirely illiterate; yet they are the only class which can give immigrants of any value. I have had many men in my employ; I have invariably found those who could not read ten times more industrious, temperate, intelligent, and honest than those corrupted by the trumpery "education" of schools. I have had for twenty years an old man (who has been what is called the odd man in England) and he can be sent with fifty commissions to purchase objects, detailed to him only orally, and he will execute these commissions with no single error either of omission or of payment.

Such a man you would turn from your shores, whilst you would receive the youth corrupted, emasculated, diseased through cheap journalism, bad tobacco, and the enforced physical idleness of the schools.

I beg you to allow me to remain, obediently, yours,  
OUIDA (LOUISE DE LA RAMÉE).

January 30, 1897.

An article appearing in the "Atlantic Monthly" some years ago discussed with all seriousness the question whether women should learn to spell. We do not know how it was decided, but we can quite imagine that a woman might be deprived of literary accomplishments without losing her charm, but we should not go so far with our analysis as the chemist, who reported that she consisted of nothing but a few pails of water with some earthy salts.

There is very grave question whether we are not in this day laying too much stress upon mere book learning as a test of ability, and unduly enlarging the list of mugwumps described by Horace Porter as men educated beyond their ability. There is a conceit of knowledge which is even worse than ignorance, for ignorance is at least teachable, while the man who thinks he knows it all, and a little more, is in a hopeless case. China is a melancholy illustration of what comes to a nation given over to the rule of book worms. There is a tendency in the same direction in this country, though we think we see some signs of healthy reaction and the testimony of so distinguished an authoress as Ouida to the advantages of ignorance may be a symptom.

## SHALL THE CADETS GO TO WASHINGTON?

Secretary Lamont, Secretary Herbert, and the House Military Committee believe that no injurious effect will follow the attendance of the Military and Naval Cadets in Washington. The Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy favorably recommended the matter to the attention of Congress and the House Military Committee has incorporated their communications on the favorable report on the proposition which it made. Both Secretaries say that there is a difference of opinion among officers as to the propriety of allowing the Cadets to visit Washington. Since 1870 the Cadets as a body have been absent from the Military Academy on four occasions, as follows: In 1873, to take part in the parade on the occasion of the second inauguration of President Grant. In 1876, to visit the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, Pa. In 1891 to take part in the Columbian parade in New York City. In 1892, to visit the World's Fair in Chicago, Ill.

The Secretary of War says: "The loss of time, absence from study and recitations, and other military exercises, will be limited to four days, certainly not a serious loss in the four years' term. Their absence will, of course, be attended with the chance of injury to health in individual cases, but the Department did not feel that these objections should control. The Cadets are generally in excellent health, of good constitutions, and their officers will take all necessary precautions to guard against the risks of exposure."

The Superintendent of the Academy, Col. Ernst, says, on the contrary: "In my judgment the loss of time from their studies, and the danger of exposure at this season, and the expense are disadvantages which more than counterbalance any advantages to be derived from the proposed visit of the Cadets to Washington. I recommend that they be left undisturbed."

The Secretary of the Navy says: "The Cadets of the Naval Academy have not, since March 4, 1873, participated in any parade away from the Academy. On that date they participated in the inauguration of the President, and, as a result, many of them were sick for a time, though it is believed that no cases resulted fatally. The day was cold and raw, and the Cadets, at their request, were permitted to discard their overcoats while on parade. Most of the officers with whom I have talked on this subject think the Cadets ought not to be permitted to participate in the inaugural parade for the reason that it will interfere with their studies and is likely to result in more or less sickness. I, however, do not share this opinion. The Cadets can come to Washington from Annapolis and return upon the same day. They can, if necessary, parade with overcoats, and, if taken due care of, but little danger to health is to be apprehended. The intervention would be simply one day."

First we had wig-wagging, or signaling. Then target practice. Now we have athletics. A certain amount of muscle developing is good, and necessary; such as running, jumping, boxing, scaling walls, breathing and flexion exercises. But when we have introduced into orders for competition and report such terms and games as "greased pig," sack races, egg with the spoon, fat man's race, backward race, cock fights, one-leg being tied up, and shoulder butting, it would seem as though we had reached the limit. The next thing in order will be competitive eating matches, such as we read of at the fat man's clam and oyster feasts, the pie contests, etc. Then the colored troops should have a chance to make a record at cake walks, 'possum and watermelon feasts. The man obtaining the greatest distention of stomach should be given a medal; possibly a medal of honor, for it would be no more unbecoming to thus reward such services than some that have secured recognition in this way, through the zealous efforts of enterprising Congressmen. There is a certain dignity becoming a soldier, even in his official sports, and we should have a care that we do not pass the limit.

The silver service for the U. S. gunboat Newport, to be presented by the people of Newport, R. I., from popular subscription, has been chosen. The centerpiece is for fruit or flowers, and consists of a bowl with graceful, sweeping sides, supported on a pillar base from which a branch on either side twines in graceful curves, ending in a smaller dish for fruit. Half curled around these branches, which they serve to support, and resting on the

plinth, are two dolphins. The piece is 12 inches high, and the entire width, including the arms, is 28 inches. The bellying outline of the bowl is characteristic of the treatment of the other pieces, and makes a line of beauty. The top is formed in undulating curves, the edge turned delicately. At the bottom of the bowl rests in a scalloped double shell, and on the ends are the seals of the Navy Department and the city of Newport. On the side is an etching of the old stone mill, within a flowering border, united at the bottom by a shell. Above is a flying ribbon, with the name of the vessel, U. S. gunboat Newport. The tureens, while differing in size, are nearly similar in design. The body has the curve seen in the centerpiece, and, like the jardiniere, rests in a shell. Around the base dolphins face outward, their tails thrown up and forming part of the supports of the shell. The plinth is spreading in form, with curling edges. The dolphin is also used for the handles, the head resting against the edge of the dish, and the tail being divided. The pitcher is tall and graceful, with dolphin and shell base, dolphin handles similar to the tureens, and decorative work along the line of the other general treatment. It has on the side the seals, and will hold six pints. In itself it is a most graceful piece and a decidedly beautiful addition to the set. Each piece will be appropriately engraved before the service is presented.

Our English contemporary, the "Army and Navy Gazette," presents a view of the arbitration treaty which should be enforced on this side of the Atlantic when it says: "Lord Salisbury, in his despatch of March 5 last, touched upon a crucial difficulty when he pointed out the danger of leaving 'issues in which the litigant states were most deeply interested to be decided by the vote of one man, and that man a foreigner, with no jury to find his facts and no court of appeal to correct his law.' \* \* \* There is much danger in submitting grave national questions to the judgment of a few men, however high-minded and impartial these may be. Unless the world belie its history, there will come times when imperious forces will direct the weight of national feeling, and when men will refuse to be bound by a decision from which they may reasonably differ. Who, then, shall enforce the award of the board of arbitration? Looked at in its essence, war is itself the final arbitrament. When every other resource has been tried, the sword is drawn to decide questions to which reason and counsel have proved unequal. We believe it must still be so. The welfare, the progress and the expansion of races cannot be ruled and controlled by the decision of a committee of seven men, or, it may be, by the casting voice of one. To attach too great an importance to the Treaty of Washington would be to lull ourselves into false security. Accepting it for what it is worth we must pursue our steady policy of securing our safety by the possession of sufficient naval and military forces. These must not be allowed to waste away under the delusion that the day for the employment of them has passed. We can, many of us, recall the bright hopes of peace and prosperity which were heralded by the great exhibition, and know how they were soon to be overshadowed by the gloomy clouds of war." The outcry in favor of arbitration on this side of the Atlantic is prompted by the expectation that it will put an end to war and that we shall have no further occasion to prepare for it. It is obvious that England does not take that view of the treaty.

"Harper's Weekly" says: "Gen. William P. Craighill, late Chief of Engineers, was retired from active service at his own request on Feb. 1. In his letter to the Secretary of War, asking to be retired, he tells the Secretary that he might have retired in July, 1893, after forty years' service, and might have been retired in July, 1895, because he was 62 years old, but was promoted instead. But he says that he has foreseen that in July of this year he would have to be retired on account of age, and then he adds: 'Having still considerable vigor left, and wishing not to live in idleness the rest of my life, I have sought for employment, with good prospects of securing it, which will be made better by an early retirement, and not waiting for the formal operation of the law. Under the circumstances stated I hope it will not seem unreasonable if I wish to be retired before July 1, 1897, and I now have the honor to request that I may be permitted to do so Feb. 1, 1897.'"

"Here's hoping that Gen. Craighill secured the employment he had his eye on. Nearly all efficient officers who are retired under the law at 64 suffer very much for lack of occupation during some of the best years of their life, and are used to lament grievously over their predicament. What a serious calamity forced idleness would be to Gen. Craighill is apparent from the information he gives about his excessive addiction to work; for he says that, including his time as a cadet, he has served forty-eight years, lacking five months, with an average of only three or four days on leave a year. The only safe and sure way to make an idle man of a person who has formed such habits as his is to bury him. But burial at 64 is wasteful and untimely, besides being difficult to compass by lawful means."

The new Congressional Library in Washington has been completed within the time limit, and at a cost of only 63 cents a cubic foot, including decorations. The cost of the gigantic municipal building in Philadelphia, which was begun in 1872 and is only now being completed, has already been \$1.60 a cubic foot. In the March "Century," the library will be described by the librarian, A. R. Spofford, while William A. Coffin, the art critic, will write of the decorations. There will be twenty-six illustrations in the two articles.





### INAUGURATION OF JEFFERSON AND JACKSON.

Mr. Joseph B. Bishop has an article on "Inauguration Scenes and Incidents" in the March Century, which is an "Inauguration Number." Mr. Bishop says of President Jackson's inauguration:

An eye-witness, who took a somewhat jocose view of the day's events, wrote that the most remarkable feature about Jackson as he marched down the aisle of the Senate with a quick, large step, as though he proposed to storm the Capitol, was his double pair of spectacles. He habitually wore two pairs, one for reading and the other for seeing at a distance, the pair not in use being placed across the top of his head. On this occasion, says the eye-witness, the pair on his head reflected the light; and some of the rural admirers of the old hero were firmly persuaded that they were two plates of metal let into his head to close up holes made by British bullets. When he appeared on the portico, we are told that the shout which arose rent the air and seemed to shake the very ground. The ceremony ended, the General mounted his horse to proceed to the White House, and the whole crowd followed him.

"The President," says a contemporary writer, "was literally pursued by a motley concourse of people, riding, running helter-skelter, striving who should first gain admittance into the executive mansion, where it was understood that refreshments were to be distributed." An abundance of refreshments had been provided, including many barrels of orange punch. As the waiters opened the doors to bring out the punch in pails, the crowd rushed upon them, upsetting the pails, and breaking the glasses. Inside the house the crush was so great that distribution of refreshments was impossible, and tubs of orange punch were set out in the grounds to entice the people from the rooms. Jackson himself was so pressed against the wall of the reception room that he was in danger of injury, and was protected by a number of men linking arms and forming a barrier against the crowd. Men with boots heavy with mud stood on the satin-covered chairs and sofas in their eagerness to get a view of the hero. Judge Story wrote that the crowd contained all sorts of people, from the highest and most polished down to the most vulgar and gross of the nation. "I never saw such a mixture," he added. "The reign of King Mob seemed triumphant. I was glad to escape from the scene as soon as possible."

No inauguration myth has been more tenacious of life than that which pictured Jefferson, attired as a plain citizen, riding on horseback to the Capitol, hitching his horse to the pailings, and walking unattended into the Senate chamber to take the oath as President. To have done this would have been in accordance with his previous utterances, for he had strongly condemned as savoring of monarchy all public ceremony at the swearing in of a President. When the time for his own inauguration arrived, however, the case seems to have looked different to him. Whether it was because he was to be the first President inaugurated at the new Capitol, or because of an unwillingness to disappoint the large numbers of his friends and partisans who had assembled to honor him, is not clear; but the fact is that he did permit a considerable display at the ceremonies. He was met at the door of his boarding house, which was only a stone's throw from the Capitol, by a militia artillery company and a procession of citizens, and, escorted by these, he went on foot to the Capitol.

### THE GROWTH OF NAPOLEON.\*

The second volume of the handsome quarto edition of Prof. Sloane's "Life of Napoleon Bonaparte" covers the period from Bonaparte's rescue of the Directory to the battle of Austerlitz. It contains eighty-four illustrations, and is sold in four styles of binding, at \$7 for cloth, \$8 for half morocco, \$9 for three-quarters morocco, and \$12.50 for full morocco. Prof. Sloane's work has attracted great attention abroad, as well as in this country, the London "Times," "Spectator," "News," "Telegraph," "Chronicle," and a host of other English papers giving it most unqualified commendation. The "Times" says:

"It is curious that the most magnificent of modern lives of Napoleon should come from America, and that the costliest homage ever paid by literature to despotism should be the work of a Republican professor in a New England (sic) university. Yet it is the fact that no book on the inexhaustible subject of Napoleon has been prepared with such lavish employment of modern resources as this. . . . It has great and unusual merits. We can call to mind no popular history that gives so consistent and so clear an account of those early years, between Brienne and Lodi, which are such a key to the character of the man. . . . It is no mere piece of bookmaking, nor even a book written merely to explain the costly illustrations, but the serious and careful work of a very competent historian."

Maj. Gen. Maurice C. B., makes the work the text of an article in the February number of the "United Service Magazine," entitled "The Growth of Napoleon," from which we take the extracts that follow:

"I do not think that sufficient justice has as yet been rendered to the work which has been done by Dr. Sloane in elucidating the true history of the early years of Bonaparte. Many others have attempted the task, but few have tried to write with the impartial character of a genuine historian, or with the patient research into the Paris archives which Dr. Sloane has devoted to his subject. For the most part the years of Napoleon's career which followed his appearance at Toulon have been recorded both by partisans and by enemies with almost equal interest. The years which preceded Toulon have been either vaguely and loosely filled with fiction, chiefly by Napoleon himself, or have been left to those who wished to throw upon them an unfavorable light. Dr. Sloane has endeavored, and on the whole very successfully, to disengage the most important facts, and to present us with at least a substantially true picture of the circumstances under which the character of the man was formed."

"The book is monumental in the method of its production. The numerous illustrations are of great value, especially those which give a variety of portraits of Napoleon at different times of his life. The detail which is required to fill out the picture, of which I am about to give a sketch is exceedingly interesting."

"Dr. Sloane has, I think, shown successfully that Napoleon's own story of his first meeting with Josephine is certainly false, and that it was through Barras that he first became acquainted with her, though how much of Barras' beastly stories about her are true it is impossible now to say. She was certainly not very faithful to Napoleon, but his marriage with her, poor as she was

and doubtful as her character may have been, certainly served him well. Whether or no, as Josephine herself alleges as well as Barras, the appointment of Napoleon to the command of the Army of Italy was nominally secured for him as a kind of marriage present, it is certain that he had become much too potent a person to be ignored by the new Directorate. Still, in many ways, the fact of his having a wife as presentable as Josephine, became an exceedingly important factor in the position he assumed after the successes of his Italian campaign. It was, however, undoubtedly on his part a marriage of passionate devotion at the time."

"I do not propose to follow Dr. Sloane into his account of the Italian campaign. It has been remarked elsewhere that he is not particularly strong when he touches military matters, the blunders for instance in his sentence about Valmy and Jemmapes being almost as numerous as the words. But as showing the nature of the work, the experiences and the training which prepared the young conqueror of Italy to play the role which he then assumed, I can only say that I have myself learnt more from Dr. Sloane than from any book I ever read."

"The whole story is, to use what has become almost a cant phrase for a novelist's characters or situations, 'convincing.' The mere bogey of our ancestors which some of our recent writers have been trying to revive, will certainly go back to its well-merited grave of ordure when this living man of genius, trained in a strange school and a strange time, but owing much to his own efforts after the best culture that he could give to himself, comes fairly to confront it."

### THE NAVY BILL.

In introducing the discussion on the Naval Appropriation bill in the House on Monday, Mr. Boutelle called attention to the fact that, notwithstanding a large increase in the number of men required by the increased number of ships, and notwithstanding the large increase in the number of vessels and the cost of maintaining or caring for them, the committee have been able to bring the entire appropriations for all purposes, except carrying on the work upon new vessels now under construction, below the appropriations of last year by \$1,600,000. He said: "Congress at the last session included in the Naval Appropriation bill a clause providing that no contract should be made for the purchase of armor for battleships authorized last year until the Secretary of the Navy should cause an inquiry to be made as to what would be a fair price for armor plate and should make a report to the next—that is the present—session of Congress. The Secretary has made that report. In brief, the conclusion of the Secretary was that \$400 a ton would be fair and equitable as an average price to pay for this armor. The manufacturers of this armor plate have not acquiesced in the estimates or in the justice of the Secretary's conclusion. They do not concede the propriety of his methods of computation."

Mr. Boutelle said: "This bill is peculiar in this respect—that it contains no recommendation of authorization of additional ships at this session. I can not with too much emphasis state to this committee that that omission represents in no possible sense the slightest purpose on the part of the Committee on Naval Affairs to relax pushing forward in the development of our naval force to that point where we shall feel we have such a Navy as the nation requires. We have refrained from recommending an additional ship at this session solely out of consideration for the present condition of the national finances, primarily, and out of consideration of what we have felt was likely to be the temper of the House at this time. And in view of the fact that we already have the situation complicated by inability thus far to obtain armor for three battleships now on the stocks, the committee considered that in view of the fact that at the last session we made the largest authorization but one in the history of the new Navy; that we have now on the stocks five first-class battleships under construction and a number of other vessels, including torpedo boats, perhaps it would best comport with the exigencies of the present situation not to authorize another battleship until this armor question has been solved to the satisfaction of the Government. And as another session of Congress is coming along soon, it was deemed wise at the last, after very careful consideration, not to recommend the authorization of another ship in this bill."

On Tuesday the bill came up again, and Mr. Barrett, of Massachusetts, spoke in advocacy of a new dry dock at Boston. He called attention to the fact that Great Britain has 43 dry docks and France 34, while the United States has only one on each coast large enough to build its large ships, while experience shows that one ship out of every three must be constantly in the dry dock. He said:

Now, Mr. Chairman, we build a navy, I suppose, with the apprehension that at some time we must go to war with it. We do not build our Navy for yachting or for purposes of pleasure. We build it to fight.

To fight with whom, Mr. Chairman? There are only two nations on the face of the globe from whom by reason of a suitable naval base we have anything to fear in connection with naval warfare. The first is Spain, who has a base of operations in Cuba. But for this purpose she need not be considered. If this country had done its duty, the navy of Spain would have been wiped off the surface of the ocean months ago, or else she would have treated American citizens with that decency which compels every other nation, weak or powerful, compels, or tries to compel, from every nation on earth. (Applause.)

Have we no navy yard on the New England coast where this work of repair could be done?

Why, of course we have. We have there one of the largest, and certainly, so far as machinery is concerned, the best equipped of all the navy yards owned by the United States. Yet for the last dozen or more years the big navy yard, which must inevitably be the base of all operations in case of war with England, has not only been neglected, but almost suffered to fall into disrepair because of the policy of the Navy Department.

Mr. Chairman: We will suppose that that battle is fought where I say. Every naval officer will agree with me on this proposition. We will suppose an American ship is injured below the water line. I make the statement that Congress has made no provision by which any repairs can be made. Any vessel thus injured must be irretrievably lost. And when I make that statement I give the very best reason why this dry dock should be constructed at Boston. It is an essential part of any system of defense against a naval antagonist.

The man who knows more about the subject by virtue of his position than any naval officer in the country, when making up his annual report, was informed by the Secretary of the Navy that he did not want any reference made therein to any new dry docks.

Then, what did the Secretary of the Navy do? I say

this is in all kindness. I bring up no sectional question. I do not allude to the very noticeable amount of money that has been expended at the Norfolk Navy yard during this Administration. . . .

The Secretary of the Navy having already directed that the officer of the Department, who knew all about the subject, should make no reference to it in his report, I find that the Secretary of the Navy himself comes in with the following recommendations for a yard which already has two dry docks; for a yard which, within the memory of members of this House, has had immense sums appropriated for its development; for a yard which occupies no strategic naval position in regard to any possible foreign war. I am satisfied, from what I have learned of this question, and I think no member of the Committee on Naval Affairs can dispute my position, Philadelphia is the best place to build the ships of all navy yards. Board after board of naval officers has reported to that effect. That city has all the natural advantages and everything there to enable it to build ships cheap and to the advantage of the Government, yet not a single ship of the new Navy has ever been built in the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Every one of them has been built, so far as navy yards on the Atlantic coast are concerned, either at Brooklyn or Norfolk, Va. I was told by a responsible party in the Navy Department, "You must remember that they are doubtful States."

"Doubtful States," Mr. Chairman! Has it come to that, that the building of vessels for the new Navy in the navy yards of the United States is not carried out where it can be done cheapest and best for the Government, but for some political consideration?

Mr. Chairman, I hope we will never have use for the Navy in time of war. I sometimes doubt very much that we will ever have to use a navy in battle. I hope there will come up no occasion when we will have to use it, as little Greece has to-day. Little Greece, with her little, sparse, scantily settled country, is challenging the admiration of the whole civilized world by sending her navy in the cause of humanity and of civilization for the relief of that little island of Crete. She is able to do so because she has made for herself, along the coast of the Piræus proper naval arsenals, which furnish the basis for the operation of these vessels.

The bill was passed.

### MUSIC AT WEST POINT.

West Point has been enjoying some entertainments this winter which must have been a great pleasure to the lovers of music there, as well as a most agreeable feature of the social life of the post. Concerts have been given by the West Point Musical Club, which, judging by their programmes, must have elicited talent of a high order and much versatility. On Jan. 13, the entertainment was given at Lieut. Hunter's, duets and solos for voice and piano being performed by Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Wilder, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Pierce, Mr. Smedberg, and Mr. Hazzard. On Jan. 27 the concert took place at Lieut. Hazzard's quarters, when there were not only vocal and piano selections by Miss Davis, Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Pierce, Mrs. Essigke, Messrs. Echols, Hazzard and Trumb, but also a violin solo by Mr. Essigke and a mandolin solo, with guitar accompaniment, by Messrs. Crabbs and Smedberg. A third concert was given on Feb. 10, at Dr. Mason's quarters, when a delightful programme was given. Mr. Essigke is bandmaster at West Point, and seems to be very successful with his part of the curriculum.

### FORT SPOKANE, WASH.

The people of the city of Spokane are very enthusiastic in regard to the location of a new military post in their vicinity, and this leads them to make some very sanguine statements as to the probable time that troops will first garrison the new Fort Spokane. Having gained the prize not without a struggle, perhaps they may be pardoned for their anxiety to have the post garrisoned at the earliest possible date, recognizing as they do what an addition to a city, commercially and socially, a regiment of troops is. However, the statement that Cos. B and E, 16th Infantry, now stationed here, would probably be ordered to the new post in the coming autumn is hardly warranted. Capt. W. H. Miller, the constructing Quartermaster, has favored the commanding officer here with a blue print plan of the new post, showing the buildings to be completed this year, construction to be begun in April. These buildings include four company officers' quarters (double), one double barracks, and one Quartermaster's shop. Their erection will exhaust the appropriation now available. As these buildings alone would be inadequate to accommodate even the smallest of garrisons, it is not seen how it can become possible to station troops in the new post as early as the sanguine ones would desire. The plan of this new post is absolutely unique, unlike anything heard of before.

Quite a number of National Guard organizations will be represented in the inauguration parade in Washington on March 4. Maryland will send her entire National Guard and Naval Militia, numbering some 1,600. Massachusetts will be represented by a provisional battalion; New York will be represented by the 71st Regiment and a provisional battalion from the 2d Brigade. From Ohio there will be the 5th, 8th and 14th Regiments; 2 batteries of artillery and Troop A, of Cleveland. Connecticut will be represented by Co. I, 3d Regiment, of New London. The Newport Artillery will represent Rhode Island. Illinois will be represented by Co. C, 3d Infantry; Co. I, 5th Infantry; the Chicago Hussars; and the 9th Colored Battalion. Georgia will be represented by the Atlanta Rifles and probably the 5th Regiment. New Jersey, it is expected, will be represented by the Essex Troop; the 2d Regiment and a detachment from the Naval Militia, and Co. C, of the 3rd Regiment. Governor Bradley, of Kentucky, will be escorted by a detail of 300 members from the State Guard. Virginia will be represented by the Washington Guards, of Fredericksburg, and West Virginia by the Elkins Cadets, of Wheeling. A company of infantry from St. Louis, it is expected, will represent Missouri. Just how Pennsylvania is to be represented is not known at this writing. The District of Columbia will be represented by its entire National Guard under Gen. Ordway.

Here is a verbatim copy of a letter from a Kansas Populist sent to Topeka the other day, addressed to the "seketry of stait": "Kingsley, Kas., Novem. 13. My deer mr. edwards—will you please send me a copy of the blew book as i want to git a gob at the stait house. wat is the salary of Privat seketry of stait and the salary of the assa treasurer. I have wurked fur the pops a long time an think i ot to get sumthin. Yures S— G. S— Ps. will doster chuse a neu clurk of the cupreme cort."

\*Life of Napoleon Bonaparte, by William Milligan Sloane, Ph. D., L. H. D., Professor of History in Princeton University. Vol. II. "The Century," New York. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1896.

## COLUMBUS BARRACKS.

Columbus Barracks, Ohio, Feb. 24, 1897.

Mrs. Waters, wife of Lieut. Col. W. E. Waters, Deputy Surg. Gen., gave a lovely dinner last Saturday, Feb. 20, to a few of her friends in the garrison. Those present were Capt. and Mrs. Chubb, Lieut. and Mrs. Perry and Mrs. Perry's mother, Mrs. Morgan, and Capt. Thompson.

Tuesday evening, Feb. 16, Mrs. Grumley, wife of Lieut. E. I. Grumley, gave a handsome dinner at her cottage. Her guests were Capt. and Mrs. Pilcher, Lieut. and Mrs. Clay, Lieut. and Mrs. Davis, Miss Hawkins and Lieut. Smith. The table was very prettily decorated with yellow daffodils, and each lady wore a large bunch tied with yellow ribbon.

On Wednesday evening, Miss Lacey, daughter of Lieut. Col. Francis E. Lacey, 3d Inf., gave a very pleasant six-hand euchre party to the officers and ladies of the garrison, requiring eight tables to accommodate those present. The prizes were won by Mrs. Wren and Miss Dressel, Capt. Chubb and Lieut. Hardaway.

Mrs. Roberts, wife of Capt. C. S. Roberts, entertained at cards on Friday evening, Feb. 19. There was a very large number of officers and ladies and their friends of the garrison present, also Capt. and Mrs. Andrews and Lieut. and Mrs. Martin, from the city. The prizes were won by Mrs. Andrews and Mrs. Martin, Lieuts. Grumley and Clay.

The following regimental orders were issued Feb. 22: 2d Lieut. B. F. Hardaway is detailed for temporary duty as Adjutant 1st Battalion. 2d Lieut. F. S. Wild is temporarily relieved from duty with Co. H, and attached to Co. C for duty. 2d Lieut. T. L. Smith is relieved from duty as Adjutant 1st Battalion. 1st Lieut. Arthur Johnson is appointed Commissary of the Command en route to Washington and return. The instructions regarding the movement of this command to Washington, D. C., directs that the uniform to be worn on the trip will be full field equipment, excepting that forage caps will be worn instead of campaign hats, which will not be taken. Overcoats without capes will be worn. The capes will be rolled in shelter tent, and carried on blanket bag.

## FORT RILEY, KAN.

Fort Riley, Kan., Feb. 22, 1897.

Col. and Mrs. Bell entertained, Feb. 11, at a progressive four-handed game of "hearts." The ladies' prizes were won by Mrs. Furlong and Mrs. Leary, the gentlemen's by Lieuts. Payne and Burgess. On the eve of St. Valentine's Day, Lieut. and Mrs. Sturgis received thirty or forty guests in response to the invitation published in the last "Journal." The "missives" were deposited in a very realistic and ingenious post office, arranged in the front hall, Lieut. Foltz filling the arduous and responsible position of postmaster. While he was engaged in assorting the mails, progressive euchre was played at six tables, with six at a table. Three players constituting a team, the winning party progressed as a unit and continued the play together. The winning team was composed of three ladies, who cut for the prize, Miss Barry drawing the lucky card, and was awarded a silver and gold salad fork. The missives having been distributed, they were promptly delivered by the postmaster, who took occasion with the permission of the addressees to publish and display some of the more clever and artistic. Every one was abundantly favored, and the mirth and excitement attending the receipt of these anonymous love tokens, beggars description. Punch was handed throughout the evening, and a most delightful supper was served after the delivery of the mail.

Much talent and labor were exhibited in the valentines, which varied in character from the extremely amatory to the ludicrous caricature of the penny-a-piece kind. The parlor and dining room were decorated with large crimson hearts and comic valentines. The other features of the entertainment were in keeping with the spirit of the occasion, but space is wanting to go into detail.

Miss Kingsbury has returned after a month's visit to Miss Meeks, of St. Louis.

Capt. and Mrs. Brett have arrived from Fort Win-gate.

Capt. and Mrs. Robinson gave a very pleasant euchre party on the 16th. Mrs. Sibley won the ladies' first prize, Mrs. Allen the second. Capt. Kingsbury won the gentlemen's first prize, Capt. Sibley the second.

Capt. and Mrs. Reilly entertained very delightfully at "hearts" on the evening of the 20th, followed by a set supper.

A reception was held on Washington's Birthday from 4 to 7 p. m. by Maj. and Mrs. Randolph, to which the members of both posts were invited. One feature which arrested the attention of the guests immediately upon entering was a large framed portrait of George Washington, surmounting the "original hatchet," decorated in Continental colors. Beneath the picture was a capacious punch bowl. In each glass were two cherries, plucked from the "original tree."

## WHY GEN. PLEASANTON LET THE ARMY.

(Letter to the New York "Times.")

I had it from Pleasanton's own lips that he had no thought of leaving the Army until the President asked him to accept the position of Collector of Internal Revenue at New York. The President told him (as he stated to me in substance) that the business of said office was in a state of great demoralization, and he wanted some one he knew and could trust to straighten it out. He told the President that he understood that the pay of Collector consisted in part of moieties, in certain cases, and that he would have nothing to do with the moiety business.

It was finally arranged (he didn't know how) that, if he would accept the office, he should receive a clean salary of \$10,000 a year, without perquisites. He then resigned from the Army and accepted the place.

Gen. Pleasanton told the writer that in the course of his duties he found that — of New York City owed the Government about \$1,000,000 in taxes, but as he felt that the Government was under obligations to him, he withheld payment in hope of getting a large abatement. It was said that the delinquent had loaned a ship to the Government which the authorities ostentatiously accepted as a gift, and he was so overwhelmed by the plaudits of the press that he let the ship go.

Influences were brought to bear upon Pleasanton to induce him to swerve from what he regarded as his sworn duty, but they were of no avail. The result was that he was superseded in the office of Collector, and could not recover his place in the Army. In plain English, he was "turned out to die," when, as he said, he was "too old to pick cottonseed."

It was not until the lapse of twenty years after he had resigned from the Army at the solicitation of the President, and about seventeen or eighteen years after he was turned out of office for refusing to do wrong, that Congress recognized that there was such a man living as Gen. Alfred Pleasanton. Finally, they threw this penitence hero a crust of bread with a most grievous insult. He was obliged to accept the crust to support life. But, is it a wonder that the man who had performed such feats of valor, as the record shows, and the Major General who, on a memorable occasion, saved the Union Army from defeat, should have carried that crust into a hermit's cell and never after appeared in public as a Colonel on the retired list?

R. G.

## RECENT DEATHS.

Rear Adml. Edmund R. Colhoun, U. S. N., retired, who died in Washington, D. C., Feb. 17, entered the Navy in 1839, attained the grade of Rear Admiral in 1882, and was retired May 6, 1883. He rendered excellent service during the Mexican and Civil wars.

The Hon. John Randolph Tucker, who died at his home in Lexington, Va., Feb. 13, aged seventy-three, is a brother-in-law of Capt. P. P. Powell, 9th U. S. Cav., who is at present at Lexington on leave, but is expected in New York in a few days.

Maj. Gen. John Cleaveland Robinson, U. S. A., who died at Binghamton, N. Y., Dec. 18, was born there April 10, 1817, and was a cadet at the U. S. Military Academy from 1835 to 1838, but left before graduation to study law. In 1839, however, he accepted an appointment as 2d Lieutenant of the 5th U. S. Infantry, and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in 1846, and served in the war with Mexico and in Florida against the Indians. In September, 1861, he was appointed Colonel of the 1st Michigan Volunteers, and in May, 1862, Brigadier General of Volunteers, serving in command of a brigade with the Army of the Potomac in the Virginia peninsula campaign of 1862, at the second battle of Bull Run, Chantilly and Fredericksburg. At Gettysburg and in the Richmond campaign he commanded a division with great bravery. At Spotsylvania Court House he received a bullet in the left knee while leading a gallant charge on the enemy's breastworks, and his leg was amputated at the thigh. In 1866 he was appointed Colonel of the 43d Infantry, and was retired with the rank of Major General in 1869. The deceased held brevets from Lieutenant Colonel to Major General for gallantry at Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Spotsylvania and in the field generally. In 1872 Gen. Robinson was elected Lieutenant Governor of the State of New York on the ticket with Gen. John A. Dix, was Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, and in 1887 president of the Society of the Army of the Potomac. He was a patriot who has deserved well of his country, with a splendid record of devotion and faithfulness to it.

Capt. William H. Merrell, U. S. A., retired, who died in New York Feb. 20 of cirrhosis of the liver, served during the entire war as an enlisted man and officer of New York troops and of the Veteran Reserve Corps. He was wounded at the first battle of Bull Run, and taken prisoner, and was exchanged in 1862. In March, 1863, he was promoted Captain of the 108th New York Volunteers, and in August of that year was appointed 1st Lieutenant of the Veteran Reserve Corps, and a few months afterwards promoted Captain. He was mustered out in October, 1866, having the previous July been appointed 1st Lieutenant 42d U. S. Infantry, was promoted Captain in 1868, and retired in 1870. For his gallantry at the first Bull Run he received the brevet of Captain in the Regular Army. The deceased was a nephew of Maj. Gen. D. E. Sickles, and leaves a daughter.

Lieut. Col. Francis Henry Parker, Ordnance Department, U. S. A., who died Feb. 22, at Allegheny Arsenal, Pittsburgh, Pa., was born in New York July 1, 1838, was graduated from West Point and promoted to the Cavalry June 2, 1861, but in the following October was transferred to the Ordnance Department. During the war he rendered valuable service in the field and elsewhere and received the brevets of Captain and Major at its close. He attained the grade of Lieutenant Colonel Jan. 3, 1887, and was the senior of his grade. The deceased officer had not been in robust health for some years past. He was a son of Supreme Court Judge Parker, of New York.

Chief Engr. John Johnson, U. S. N., retired, who died at New York City, joined the Navy in 1857 as Third Assistant Engineer and attained the grade of Chief Engineer in 1863. He was retired in 1876.

## PATENTS FOR ARMOR-PLATE PROCESSES.

In their report on the prices of armor for vessels of the Navy, the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs say:

"The inquiry whether officers of the Government were interested in patent processes used in connection with armor for vessels of the Navy or employed by the owners thereof led at once to the discovery that it was the custom of the Navy Department to allow not only officers on the retired list, but also officers on the active list on leave of absence to enter into any private employment which they might anywhere obtain; and moreover, to permit them to enter into the employment of contractors doing various kinds of business with the United States. The outcome of the inquiry on this point was the recommendation by the committee and the adoption by Congress in the naval appropriation act of June 10, 1896, of the clause hereinbefore recited, prohibiting any officer of the Navy from entering into the employment of any person or company furnishing naval supplies or war material to the Government. Secretary Herbert (pp. 42 and 43) and ex-Secretary Tracy (p. 167) testify that the practice existed.

"The committee had no hesitancy in reaching the conclusion that the above custom was a bad one, and should be discontinued under all ordinary conditions, and especially that the employment of naval officers by contractors having large dealings with the Government should be peremptorily prohibited by law. The discussion in the Senate on April 27 and 28, 1896 (pp. 4,463 to 4,474 and pp. 4,502 to 4,511), indicates clearly the objections to the practice.

"No man can well serve two masters, and if contractors having large dealings with a department of the Government can take into their employment, with no limit as to compensation, officials of that department, and through them can learn the secrets and the purposes of the department, and moreover insidiously influence its action, great injury may result to the public service. The fundamental principle upon which all legitimate business is transacted—that each side shall be represented solely by persons wholly devoted to its own interests—is viciously violated by a custom which allows one side to take into its pecuniary employment a representative of the other side.

"An effort was made in the debate to draw a distinction between officers on the active list and officers on the

retired list. The committee deny that any well-founded distinction exists which ought to influence the decision of the question. Retired officers of the Navy remain officers to all intents and purposes with an important exception. Section 1,462 of the Revised Statutes provides that 'no officer on the retired list of the Navy shall be employed on active duty except in time of war.'

"In striking contrast to the action of Comdr. Folger in suggesting to a private citizen, Mr. Harvey, the obtaining of a patent for the use of which the Government would be compelled to pay a large sum of money, is his action as stated in his testimony in the suit of Seabury vs. Dashiell, where, after Lieut. Seabury had submitted to him a breech-closing mechanism, he promoted the invention of a similar device by Lieut. Dashiell, for which the latter received a patent, and is now paid \$125 royalty on each gun on which it is used (p.413).

"Comdr. Folger said: I tell you frankly, and it is only human, that I look upon the production of that officer with more sympathetic consideration than I do upon the production of an outsider and free lance, who comes in for the pelf alone, for mere money-making business, without having given any previous service, remembering all the time that the interests of the Government are guarded by the adoption of the better device. How Comdr. Folger, entertaining the foregoing views, which led him to 'knock out' the projects of Mr. Maxim, a great inventor, and the device of Lieut. Seabury, could at the same time suggest and promote the patents of Mr. Harvey, 'an outsider and free lance, who comes in for the pelf alone, for mere money-making business,' it is difficult to understand.

The committee has investigated the history of the Cruess nickel steel processes, in which American manufacturers of armor pay a royalty amounting, in the case of the Bethlehem Company, to \$500,000. They say, in this connection:

"It seems that Secretary Tracy had doubts of the novelty of the Schneider inventions, and a conviction that the royalty of two cents a pound was excessive. He therefore determined to test the patents by litigation, and since he left the Navy Department has acted as counsel for the Carnegie Company to defeat the patents in the litigation which is going on between them and Schneider & Co. in our courts. Messrs. Schneider & Co. earnestly complain, not merely because the Navy Department does not pay them a royalty on their patents, but because it virtually makes the Government a party to a suit to destroy their patents for all purposes whatsoever. Their views on this point are stated in a letter annexed to this report, signed by their counsel, Messrs. Pollok and Mauro, dated Dec. 5, 1896.

The committee state that the patent on the Harvey process was suggested to Mr. Harvey by Comdr. Folger of the Navy. Its issue was expedited at the request of Secretary Tracy, and its ownership has passed into the hands of the combined armor makers of Europe by their acquisition of four-fifths of the stock in the Harvey Company, whose service Comdr. Folger entered when he resigned from his bureau in the Navy Department.

Mr. Corey, an employé of the Carnegie Company, has patented a process for retesting and reforging armor-plates which have even been treated, but in which there may be defects. The patents for the Schneider processes are being invested, a fund for this purpose amounting \$270,000 having been provided by order of Secretary Tracy. The committee believe that Government officials ought not to promote a monopoly of the business of making armor through patents issued to the use of the combined manufacturers while using the power of the Government to destroy patents held by foreigners."

"Harper's Round Table" for Feb. 2 has an article called "Captain Leary's Samoan Experience; Some Stirring Incidents in Recent American Naval History," by Franklin Matthews. Among other things this article relates the gallant conduct of Capt. Leary when the Adams, commanded by him, was laid side by side with the German men-of-war, which threatened to fire upon Apia. The writer says: "Such shots would have gone over the deck of the Adams, which Leary commanded, and he practically, though not literally, sent word to the German commander that the first shot on the native forts would be answered by a broadside from American guns. After almost an entire day of intense excitement on board both ships and on the mainland, the German commander yielded—went back into port—and a grave crisis in our history was safely passed—because of the patriotism and pluck of one of our naval officers who to this day refuses to talk about it." Mr. Matthews continues with an account of Capt. Leary's further brave action in this crisis of Samoan affairs, and the very interesting article is to be continued.

## THE DISAGREEABLE WEATHER DRIVING PEOPLE SOUTH.

For the last two weeks the travel southward has been very large. The cold and changeable weather in the North has been doing its work. The principal resorts South are being rapidly filled, and the transportation lines in that direction have been doing an immense business. The Southern Railway system, whose northern terminus is at Washington, D. C., and penetrates every State South, operating its trains from New York over the Pennsylvania to Washington, thence over its own rails, has made great improvements in railway transportation, in every instance looking to the comfort of Southern travel, and they are being rewarded by running their three limited trains daily from New York filled to their capacity. The service offered by this great system is equal to that offered by any railway on the American continents. Its limited train service to Florida, New Orleans and the Pacific Coast is perfect in every respect. Any one contemplating a trip to any points South, Southwest or the Pacific Coast should write the New York office of the Southern Railway, 271 Broadway, and get complete information relating to schedules, etc., and descriptive matter of the charming country through which this great system takes you on a Southern journey.

The R. H. Wolf Co., Limited, maker of Wolf American High Art Cycles, have issued their 1897 catalogue. The book is very beautiful typographically, and sets forth the merits of what may be considered one of the very best bicycles now before the public. It has the enthusiastic commendation of officers connected with the United States Military Service, as well as that of experienced bicycle riders.

Messrs. Higgins and Seiter, whose names are familiar to readers of the "Army and Navy Journal" in connection with fine china and cut glass, have opened the new wareroom which they have recently built in addition to their former spacious show rooms, thus giving a great deal of additional space which was needed by the ladies who thronged their establishment daily.

## THE STATE TROOPS.

9th NEW YORK—COL. WM. SEWARD.

Washington's Birthday was never more heartily celebrated by the members of the 9th Regiment, New York, and its friends as it was on the evening of Feb. 22, 1897. It was a double celebration in honor of the birth of the great "George," and the formal opening of the regiment's magnificent new edifice, so the combination proved the great attraction of the day hereabouts, and it is seldom so representative a military gathering is seen. It is also seldom a \$300,000 structure is furnished a regiment, and in the case of the 9th, it came after years of weary waiting and vexatious litigation, and when finally the regiment became happily located in its new home hosts of people were present to wish it well and unite in the celebration. There was standing room only, and the large drill hall, devoid of decoration, save that furnished by the presence of so many charming ladies and their varied costumes, was handsome in its simplicity. Both electric and gas lights were used, and the effect was very pretty. As this was the first time the 9th has ever appeared in public, in a drill hall large enough to hold it, considerable interest was manifested as to how it would act in the face of its long handicap. It can be truly said that the regiment as a whole made a most excellent display, and, overlooking the several minor breaks on the part of several officers, the regiment made a most favorable impression, and before the largest and most distinguished audience that ever viewed it. Indeed, to many the excellent showing of the regiment was in the nature of a surprise. There was a somewhat tedious wait between the first call for assembly, sounded at 8.15 o'clock, and Adjutant's call for the formation of battalions at 8.45 o'clock. When the companies assembled it was noticed that all fell in double rank as prescribed, with the exception of two companies in the 1st Battalion, who fell in single rank. The regiment was equalized in two battalions of five companies of sixteen files each, Maj. Japha commanding the 1st Battalion, with Lieut. Truman as Adjutant, and the 2d Battalion was in command of Maj. Lorigan, with Lieut. Hardie as Adjutant. The battalion formation was well done, as was also the regimental formation in line under the direction of Adj. Wieners. After Col. Seward had taken post and ordered ranks opened for review, the first break in the ceremonies occurred. The Colonel, saluting the reviewing officer, Mayor Strong, ordered ranks opened for review. The Mayor, however, at this juncture instead of advancing toward the Colonel stated he wished to be excused from passing around the lines, as he was troubled with rheumatism, and asked that Gen. C. H. T. Collis take his place. This unlooked for change in the prescribed ceremony evidently threw the Colonel off his guard, for he ordered "close ranks," which the 4th and 5th Companies obeyed, and afterwards seeing the mistake they fell back again. After presenting arms, the Colonel also omitted to bring the regiment to an order arms, and this was done by the respective Majors. Such omissions will at times break in upon the best of military men, and in the long years of service of Col. Seward he was never known, in the memory of the oldest military rounders, to have made such an error before, but a Colonel who has been in the service of the National Guard for some thirty-five years is entitled to make a minor error once or twice during that period. In the passage, the 1st Co. of the 2d Battalion went by at a right shoulder, and the latter battalion marched a little too close to the 1st. With these exceptions, the companies passed very creditably. Evening parade was the next ceremony, and in the first, or battalion, formation there was no interval between the 4th and 5th Cos. of the 1st Battalion. The regimental formation was well done. In executing parade rest, one man in the 2d Battalion dropped his gun. During the ceremony Gen. Collis, in a few well-chosen words, presented the State medals "for long and faithful service" to the following members of the regiment:

Class 1, for twenty-five years' service—Maj. Solomon E. Japha, Capt. Charles E. Kohlberger and Sergt. Maj. Walter H. Van Vleck.

Class 2, for twenty years' service—1st Sergt. Edmond Marchfield.

Class 3, for fifteen years' service—Capt. John D. Walton.

Class 4, for ten years' service—Capt. Herbert C. Taylor, Capt. Arthur M. Tompkins, Sergt. Joseph Markwalter, Pvt. Henry Barr, Pvt. Frank H. Roberts, Pvt. Walter W. Garbrandt and Sergt. Gustav Dumas. That the audience was largely a military one can be judged by the fact that when the "Star-Spangled Banner" was played at "retreat," nearly half of it arose.

During the ceremonies of the evening the men were steady and attentive, and the manual was fairly well ex-

ecuted. The intervals between men were carefully preserved, as well as the distances and alignments of ranks when marching in column of fours. The men also presented a very cleanly appearance, and the opening ceremonies, despite the minor errors noted, reflected in every way to the credit of the command. Following the parade the field music, under Drum Maj. Hill, gave a splendid exhibition, after which came a ball and the entertainment of special guests at supper, the regiment proving itself a royal host. The armory was explored by the guests from top to bottom, and the completeness of its various appointments were manifest to all. The manner in which the drill floor is laid is superior to any armory floor in the country, being built on a new system, which deadens all sound in marching. Among the many guests present were Maj. Roe, Capt. Bridgman and Badgley, and Lieut. Hurry, of Squadron A; Lieut. Col. King, Capt. Smith, Lieuts. Bennett and Hart, and ex-Surg. Weston, of the 22d Regiment; Capt. Rand, 7th Regt.; Col. Greene, Adj. Bates, Capt. Keck and White, and Lieut. McLeod, 71st Regt.; Capt. Blake, Lieuts. Huston and De Russy, and ex-Capt. Boylan and Sprague, 12th Regt.; ex-Asst. Surg. Gen. Henry. The 4th New Jersey had a large delegation, consisting of Lieut. Col. Mason, Capt. Steele, Brinkerhoff, Wilcox, Graff, Springsted, and Derrom, and Lieuts. Christie, Moore, O'Neill and Bouker, Capt. Wendel and Lieuts. Dingleman and Hathaway, 1st Battery; Capt. Blackman, 23d Regt.; Capt. Greenough, 8th Sep. Co.; Gens. Viele and King, ex-Gen. Whitlock, Col. Waring, members of Lafayette Post, and the Old Guard, and many others. The celebration continued until late Tuesday morning.

14th NEW YORK—COL. H. W. MICHEL.

The review of the 14th New York by the Hon. F. W. Wurster, Mayor of Brooklyn, took place at the armory, Friday evening, Feb. 19, 1897. The regiment paraded the usual two battalions, each equalized in five commands of sixteen files each, and commanded by Maj. B. H. Tobey and Geo. L. Gillon, respectively. The battalion formations were all that could be desired, the regimental formation for review, which was in line, was splendidly executed, and during the review in line the men were perfectly steady. In the march past most of the companies had excellent alignments. The salutes of the officers were not as uniform as usual. The Mayor of the 2d battalion brought his sabre down too quickly and too far, and caught the point in the floor. Without making invidious comparisons, it must be said that the most graceful salute was rendered by the Captain of the fourth company of the 2d Battalion. Long service medals were presented by the Mayor to the following officers and men: Twenty-five years—Color Bearer Wm. J. Le Pine, Pvt. Wm. McDermott, Co. I. Twenty years—Lieut. Col. A. L. Kline, Field Capt. Joseph R. K. Barlow, Co. I. Fifteen years—Capt. E. H. Michie, Co. E; Battn. Sergt. Maj. Wm. Mullen, N. C. S.; Q. M. Sergt. Geo. W. Vernon, Co. C; Q. M. Sergt. Patrick Casey, Co. E; Sergt. E. D. B. Logan, Co. H; Pvt. Jas. A. Shannon, Co. E; Pvt. Geo. S. Capstick, Co. C. Ten years—Battn. Adj. Wm. C. Riefenstahl, Staff; 1st Lieut. Patrick F. McLaughlin, Co. E; Corp. Bernard Goodwin, Co. E; Pvt. Edwin V. Hoogland, Co. B; Pvt. Michael McNamara, Co. E. After this the regiment was dismissed, to re-form for parade. The parade was in line, and was taken by Lieut. Col. Kline. The battalion and regimental formations were as before, excellent, and the entire ceremony reflects credit on the regiment. After the officers had been dismissed the regiment passed in review under command of the Regimental Sergeant Major, and again made an excellent showing. At the conclusion of the military ceremonies the Mayor and invited guests were entertained at supper.

22d NEW YORK—COL. FRANKLIN BARTLETT.

The 22d New York assembled in its armory for review by Brig. Gen. Louis Fitzgerald, on Friday evening, Feb. 19. The regiment having discarded its old full-dress uniform, and not having yet provided itself with a new one, paraded in fatigue. It presented a neat and soldierly appearance, and was promptly equalized by Acting Regimental Adjutant Treadwell into three battalions of four commands of sixteen files each. The 1st battalion was in command of Maj. Demarest, with Lieut. Stott acting as Adjutant, the second Maj. Thurston, with Lieut. Daily as Adjutant, and the third was under Capt. Maidhoff, with Lieut. Hart as Adjutant. The regimental formation in line of masses was exceptionally well made, the command being turned over to Col. Bartlett for review by Gen. Fitzgerald and six of his staff, which included Lieut. Col. Olin, Maj. Montant, Van Duzer and Andrews. In the passage the salute of the staff was ragged, and one command went by at a right shoulder. Col. Bartlett also took the evening parade, which was a

very creditable ceremony. The commands of the Colonel were very clear and distinct, and in this respect he has few equals.

Regimental and State decorations for long and faithful service were presented as follows: Regimental: Fifteen years' service—Capt. J. G. R. Lillendahl, Battalion Adj. R. J. Daly, 2d Lieut. David Lowenbein, Drum Maj. G. W. Brown, and Sergt. Joseph Unger. Ten years' service—Q. M. Sergt. Daniel McCurdy, Sergt. A. R. Hudson, Pvt. T. R. Perham, and Pvt. Harry Wilcox. State: Class I, 25 years—Color Bearer Albert Wilkinson, Class II, 20 years—1st Lieut. Walter S. Bennett, Co. F. Class III, 15 years—Regimental Adj. Stephen F. Hart, Sergt. Joseph Unger, Co. B. Class IV, 10 years—Insp. of Rifle Practice Clement F. Kross, Pvt. Theodore R. Perham, Co. C; Pvt. Harry Wilcox, Co. H; Capt. John G. R. Lillendahl, Co. C; Sergt. Arthur B. Hudson, Co. F; Pvt. Harry A. Beneke, Co. K, and Q. M. Sergt. Daniel McCurdy, Co. B. The non-commissioned staff, late in the evening, presented an elaborate silver table service to Drum Maj. George W. Brown in recognition of his long service and all-around good fellowship.

Marksmen's decorations were also presented. Col. Bartlett, in a few well-chosen words, congratulating the regiment upon its excellent work at Creedmor the past year, in which it qualified 13 experts, 51 sharpshooters and 522 marksmen. A band concert and a dance concluded the entertainment.

SQUADRON A. NEW YORK—MAJOR C. F. ROE.

The annual mounted tournament of Squadron A held on the evening of Feb. 18 in its armory, has always been an unusually attractive event, and this year was more so than ever. The preliminaries having all been decided previously, the night of the games brought only the pick of contestants into the ring, and the skill and daring shown demonstrated the thorough training the members of the squadron have had. The printed programme in pamphlet form containing many illustrations of interest, was a very handsome piece of work, reflecting great credit on its projectors. The ceremonies of the evening were opened with a mounted drill by two platoons under Maj. Roe, the troopers appearing to the greatest advantage in their new Hussar uniforms of blue. The drill proved a most enjoyable feature, and was executed in that smart and snappy manner which has made the squadron famous, and undoubtedly served as a valuable object lesson to aspiring troopers of some other organizations of more recent birth than Squadron A, who were present, looking for points. The novices got points not only from the drill, but from the athletic feats as well. A summary of the events follows: Head cutting—Some very dashing work was done by Corp. Parish. His horse took quite a bit of riding, but he sat down and sent him over the jumps without a mistake, while six imaginary heads—the full number—were cut. Artificer Judson fully deserved the honor of being second. These two troopers showed very superior swordsmanship and horsemanship. "Riding Double"—The feat consists of one man riding a horse bridled and saddled while another man vaults on the horse's quarters, at a walk, a trot, and a gallop, within one circuit of the ring. The men then change positions. This was a difficult task, but did not prove very exciting. The winners were Corp. Wendt and Sergt. Hammond.

The potato race was much more amusing and the winner, Pvt. Slade, had to do very smart work to get the award, picking up all the "spuds" and duly depositing them in the basket at the other end of the ring in 1:24½. The second man, Pvt. Condit, accomplished the feat in 1:31½. Some of the contestants did really remarkable things in the line of nearly landing on their heads in the tankard from the back of their horses, and then recovering their balance.

After a Cossack drill the programme continued with the "over the hurdle, back to back" class, which proved the star event of the evening.

The final events were: "Low reach at a gallop," picking a handkerchief off the ground with the horse at a gallop, a novelty race, and a grand melee, with twelve men on a side. The Cossack drill was voted a great success, and at least equal to the performances of the regulars of Troop F, at the recent tournament at Madison Square Garden. The charges over a low hurdle in the middle of the ring, with the troopers standing in their shortened stirrups, especially brought down the house.

23d NEW YORK—COL. A. C. SMITH.

The 23d Regiment assembled for review and presentation of marksmen's badges on Saturday evening, Feb. 20, 1897, at 8:15, and promptly at the hour named the Adjutant's call for battalion formation was sounded. The regiment presented a handsome appearance and



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paraded two battalions, each having five commands of 16 files. This, however, does not represent the number present for duty, some 40 odd files being left out of the formation. The battalions were formed in an excellent manner and turned over to Maj. Case and Stokes in splendid shape.

The regimental formation for review, which was in line, was also handsomely executed. Ranks were at once opened and arms presented to Brig. Gen. William M. Kirby, Gen. Insp. Rifle Practice, New York, who was the reviewing officer. During the review in line the men were, as usual, perfectly steady and motionless. The review in passage was about the finest that has been witnessed in this army in a long time.

The parade which followed the review was a very creditable ceremony all the way through. After the reports had been received the following prizes were distributed: The regimental team of 1896, consisting of Lieut. Col. De Forrest, Capt. C. D. Napier, Capt. R. Hoag, Capt. F. R. Wells, Capt. Hamlin, Lieut. Willard, Lieut. Hamilton, 1st Sergt. E. V. Howard, Sergts. Musson, Ball and Findlay, Corp. Stopford and Lagrin, Bryant and Cook, Jr.; Pvt. Findlay and Boucher and Ord. Sergt. C. E. Bryant were awarded the 2d Brigade prize. Lieut. Col. De Forrest was awarded the Oliver Aggregate Medal for the highest aggregate score at Creedmoor in 1896. The 23d Regiment Grand Gold Medal was awarded to Capt. F. A. Wells, Co. B, for the highest qualification score at Creedmoor in 1896. Co. G won the State prize for the highest figure of merit of any company in the Second Brigade—12 experts—92 sharpshooters and 637 marksmen, making in all 741 qualified, out of a total of 762 officers and men on the rolls. When these men were called to the front the ranks looked very thin, there being but 21 who did not qualify. It is a showing of which the organization may justly be proud. The fact that dancing was again permitted proved a great attraction. The music rendered by the band was excellent all through the evening.

#### NATIONAL GUARD ITEMS.

The 11th Separate Co., New York, will hold a drill and reception Monday evening, March 1, 1897, at its armory, Mount Vernon, N. Y. Marksmen's badges will be presented. There will be a drill at 8.15 and dancing at 9.30.

The officers of the 7th Regiment of New Jersey, on Feb. 18, elected Charles Y. Bamford to be Colonel of the regiment, in place of W. H. Skirm, who recently retired. Col. Bamford has been Lieutenant Colonel for some years. He will be succeeded by Maj. A. J. Buck, of Freehold.

The campfire and stag of Co. A, 71st New York, Capt. White, held on Feb. 20, proved an unusually attractive event, and the warmth shed at the campfire is probably felt by some of the guests yet. There was a number of excellent artists, who furnished any amount of amusement to the boys. Among those fortunate enough to be present were Capt. Joyce, Lieut. Heidsman, and Lieut. McLeod. The event was so successful that the company may give another.

The spring games of the 22d New York will be held in the armory on March 22. The present strength of the regiment is 674 officers and men, a gain of 12 since the first of the month. 1st Sergt. Lawrence, of Co. C has been appointed a battalion Sergeant Major.

Co. D, 12th New York, Capt. Barnard, will hold an entertainment and reception at the armory March 2, and later in the season some athletic games.

In order to protect an alleged murderer during trial at Decatur, Ga., on Feb. 18, two companies of the 5th Regiment were ordered on duty at the Court House, in command of Maj. W. J. Kendrick.

Drills are very satisfactory in the 1st Battery, New York, these times; attendance excellent; in fact, so good that the battery has three different drills going at the same time. Capt. Wendel, with one officer, has the non-commissioned officers (mounted) and drivers in one room giving them instruction in mounted battery drills, illustrating the same with miniature carriages; two other officers have four gun detachments at standing gun drill, and the fifth officer gives instruction (practical) in guard duty in the upper hall. Friday nights is for non-commissioned officers' theoretical and practical instruction. Thursday nights are devoted to calisthenics with music after Lieut. Butts's idea. Monday evenings, recruit drill. So it is plain the battery is putting in full time. The battery expects to have its inspection in Van Cortlandt Park during the latter part of May, most likely going into camp there for three days.

The 2d Battery, New York, Capt. Wilson, celebrated Washington's Birthday by holding an entertainment and reception at Lenox Lyceum. An excellent variety programme, followed by a farce, was well received, after which there was dancing. Capt. David Wilson, assisted by Lieuts. Flanagan, Sherry, Jacobus and Koehler, received the guests, among whom were Gens. Louis Fitzgerald, Howard Carroll, M. O. Terry and Joseph D. Bryant; Colonel Ashley W. Cole, Capt. Barnard and Louis Wendel, Comdr. J. W. Miller and Capt. H. S. Satterlee, New York Guard; Maj. Gen. W. J. Plume and staff, of New Jersey; Maj. W. W. Chew and Adj. Charles Lamb, of the State Invincibles of Pennsylvania; Maj. George Chappell and Judge Advocate H. S. Ransom, of the Old Guard, and Capt. Zalinski, Gilman, Johnston, Curtis and Brainard, U. S. A.

The 71st New York will take part in the inauguration ceremonies at Washington March 4, and the men are very enthusiastic over the trip. Q. M. Olyphant has secured a special train on the B. and O., and the regiment will leave via Liberty Street about 10 o'clock on the evening of March 3, and will arrive in Washington at 7 o'clock next morning. The men will make their headquarters in Washington at the armory of the Washington Light Infantry. After the parade the members of the regiment will attend the inauguration ball. They will start for home on the afternoon of March 5. As soon as the regiment is dismissed after the parade the time up to the hour of returning will be given to the men themselves. The hour of assembly on March 3 has been set for 9 o'clock p. m., the regiment parading in full uniform, with overcoats, packs and fatigue uniform therein. A very pleasant trip is contemplated, regardless of weather.

In connection with the recent review of the 7th New York, it was stated among other things in referring to the rapidity of the formation that "the stated number of men at these ceremonies only report on the floor, thus saving the Adjutant the time and trouble of making an equalization." This is an error, as the usual equalization was made by Adj. Weaver after the 1st Sergeants reported.

Brig. Gen. Louis Fitzgerald reviewed the 8th Regiment, New York, on the evening of Feb. 22, and the event proved a very pleasant one. We reserve a more detailed account for another week.

The annual subscription ball of the 4th New Jersey held on Feb. 24 was one of the grandest military social events of the year, and the management was perfect, as usual.

The First Signal Corps, New York, Capt. Hedge, will hold a review and presentation of marksman's badges on Friday evening, March 5, in the Central Park Riding Academy. In April it is proposed to hold a military ball.

Co. B, 71st New York, Capt. Hazen, will hold a minstrel entertainment and dance in the Harlem Opera House Hall Monday night, March 1.

The 47th New York, Col. Eddy, will be reviewed by ex-Maj. Gen. T. H. McGrath on Monday evening, March 8. A presentation of State Long Service Medals will also be made and a reception will be held.

The First Brigade New York, Gen. Louis Fitzgerald, will parade at the dedication of the Grant Monument in April next.

Col. McCoskey Butt, of the 12th Regt. New York, is very ill at his home.

New Jersey is to have a military representation at the inaugural ceremonies at Washington both Houses hav-

ing passed on Feb. 23 the bill introduced by Senator Voorhees appropriating \$7,100 to pay the expenses and authorizing the Governor to send such part of the National Guard as he shall deem advisable. It is the understanding that the Second Regiment, of Paterson, will form the nucleus of the battalion.

#### NAVAL MILITIA.

A visit to the New Hampshire, at the foot of East 28th street, Headquarters of the 1st Naval Battalion of New York, Comdr. J. W. Miller, on any of the drill nights of the several divisions, will prove of considerable interest. It is really astonishing the amount of work the men of the Naval Militia voluntarily perform as members of the naval branch of the State force. They not only have to learn a considerable portion of the marching movements of the land forces, as well as guard duty, but many other duties. The land troops have to learn some one particular branch of the service, while the Naval Militia have to learn pretty much of everything. Their duties include seamanship, infantry and artillery drill, torpedo work, engineering, signalling and many other diversified duties incidental to seamanship. As an example of what the several divisions are doing the following schedule of the work performed by the 2d Division, at present in command of Lieut. Dimmock, will show how the time of the men is occupied. On the Tuesday evening drill of this command we found the several crews drilling as follows: One crew was engaged in boat drill, under sails and oars, armed and equipped for distant service, a large cutter being brought out on the spar deck for practice, which was manned by the crew just as if she lay in the water. A tent was pitched and some observation work accomplished, and a 1-pounder was mounted and dismounted. Another crew was busy exercising with broad sword, under a special instructor, and a third was busy on the gun deck in the artillery drill, while a fourth crew was engaged in marlinspike seamanship. Each of the crews took some fifteen or twenty minutes' practice in each duty. During the evening each crew eventually had practiced all the various duties. From 9.25 to about 10 o'clock the entire division then assembled armed and equipped as infantry. They took up the bayonet exercise, street riot drill, and extended order, formed as two companies. The signal men also practiced during the evening in two divisions. The men evinced great interest in their work, which they performed in a most intelligent and satisfactory manner. The progress in the bayonet exercise, which has only recently been taken up, was very commendable. The greatest of care is taken to have every man thoroughly instructed, and during the drills a petty officer is ordered to make a record of any men seen to be deficient in any portion of the drill, and any such men found, are drilled specially in a squad by a petty officer. Boat drill is conducted by the coxswain. Captains of crews in artillery, infantry, and marlinspike seamanship under the supervision of commissioned officers. The State has certainly reason to be proud of this exceptional fine body of men, who would prove of the greatest value to the State in the event of trouble.

The following officers of the Naval Brigade attended the reception of Gov. Wolcott at the Boston State House, Feb. 22: Capt. Weeks, Lieut. Comdr. Paul, Ord. Officer Sweet, Engr. Fry, Brig. Adj. Dodd, Paymr. Williams and Lieuts. Sears, Dillaway and Brigham. On the afternoon of Washington's Birthday the Captain and officers of the Naval Brigade gave a "Tea" on the Minnesota.

United States District Attorney Bennett, of Brooklyn, began condemnation proceedings in the Federal Court Feb. 17, for possession of land on Fisher's Island to be used for fortifications.



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The breathings of the pine and fir,  
The clang of arms, the martial stir  
All city joy surpasses.

Talk not of wives and cosy homes!  
With children's voices calling;  
Give me the bugles sounding clear,  
The ringing squadron's swift career,  
The firm blue bank of foot, and hear  
The drum-beat proudly rolling.

Off love's sweet, shrinking, passion flower  
We brush the dews of sorrow,  
And woo its perfume, blithe and gay,  
From lips of red, or eyes of gray,  
Living and loving here, to-day,  
And God knows where to-morrow.

How wan the tarnish'd sunbeams seem  
In curtain'd parlors lying?  
But, oh! the sparks that dart and dance  
On saber blade and pennon'd lance,  
When past the marching columns glance  
Their banners bravely flying.

I'll none of death in some dim room  
Pale forms around me grieving;  
But let my spirit crack its shell  
And outward soar on battle's swell,  
So, be its route to heaven or hell,  
This life was worth the living!

—WILLIAM STOKES.

## TROOPS FOR THE INAUGURATION.

The representatives of the regular Army in the inaugural parade on the 4th of March will be larger than on any such occasion in recent years. Orders have been issued for the following companies to repair to Washington in season, to take places in the line:

17th Regt. of Infantry, from Columbus Barracks, O.  
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Eight foot batteries of Artillery, from Washington Barracks, D. C., Fort Monroe, Va., and Fort McHenry, Md.

Four troops of Cavalry (6th Regt.), of Fort Myer, Va.  
Four troops of Cavalry (3d Regt.), Fort Ethan Allen, Vt.

Two light batteries of artillery, one from Fort Hamilton, N. Y., and one from Washington Barracks, D. C.

The Government of Colombia has voted 6,000,000 francs for the purchase of more war ships. The Navy now consists of only one cruiser, the Cordoba, which was recently fitted out in New York and which turned out to be a failure; the gunboats Lapopa and Bayaca and the revenue cutters Narino and Hercules.

If men will follow the example of Sir Walter Raleigh, and burn tobacco, they should have sufficient consideration for themselves, and their friends, to use only the best. Charles Lamb said that if he were to offer a sacrifice to the devil it would be a pig stuffed with tobacco, probably on the principle of the man who in a storm at sea continually ejaculated, "Good Lord, good devil," anxious to be on good terms with whichever was the winner in the contest for his miserable soul. Provided that the tobacco

were good we should think that Lamb's offering might propitiate even the arch-enemy of mankind. As to good tobacco, where can you find better than in the Yale Mixture, made by the American Tobacco Company, successor to Marburg Bros. It is described as a gentleman's smoke, and is a delightful blend of St. James' Parish, Louisiana, Perique, Genuine Imported Turkish, Extra Bright Plug Cut, Extra Bright Long Cut and Marburg Bros.' Celebrated Brand "Pickings."

A newspaper man who has studied Speaker Reed closely says: "Mr. Reed takes frequent rests by calling members temporarily to the chair. But yesterday, for instance, was given over to motions for suspension of the rules. He was afraid of what might come up, so he would not trust another member with the responsibilities of the chair. Hour after hour of this ceaseless and monotonous strain wears out even his Titanic vigor. He becomes worn and abstracted. He is often jolly, and shakes with laughter in the chair, but now he is severe and formidable. The consulting clerk at his right hand has to tell him what the motion is. The weariness of rising to put motions is telling upon him, and by the time he brings down his gavel at 5:30 o'clock to declare the House adjourned, he would be about as dangerous for ordinary approach as a Kansas cyclone or a Rocky Mountain grizzly."

A dispatch from San Francisco reports that the new 10-inch rifle was fired for the first time on the bluff back of Fort Winfield Scott, Feb. 8. Three shots were fired. The first charge was 186½ pounds, the second 250 pounds, and the last 280 pounds. Cast iron shot with chilled points, weighing 575 pounds, were used. With the last charge the pressure ran up to 41,000 pounds. The limit allowed is 37,000 pounds. The firing was done by Lieut. John D. Miley, under whose supervision the great rifle has been mounted. Lieut. Babbitt of Benicia Arsenal had charge of taking the velocity.

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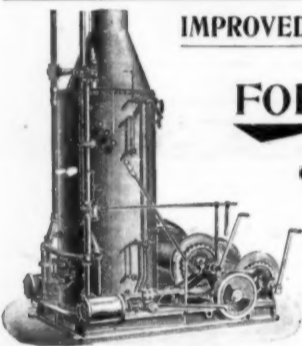
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